

**THE EFFECT OF DEVELOPMENT INDUCED  
DISPLACEMENT ON THE UNORGANIZED WORKERS  
IN SREEKARIYAM, TRIVANDRUM**

*A Dissertation submitted to the University of Kerala in partial  
fulfillment of requirements for the Masters of Social Work Degree  
Examination*

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**2021-2023**

## **CERTIFICATION OF APPROVAL**

**This is to certify that this dissertation entitled “The Effect of Development Induced Displacement on the Unorganized Workers in Sreekariyam” is a record of genuine work done by Mr. Thomas Tomy, fourth semester Master of Social Work student of this college under my supervision and guidance and that it is hereby approved for submission.**

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## **DECLARATION**

**I, Thomas Tomy, do here by declare that the Dissertation titled “The Effect of Development Induced Displacement on the Unorganized Workers in Sreekariyam” is based on the original work carried out by me and submitted to the University of Kerala during the year 2021-2023 towards partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Social Work Degree Examination. It has not been submitted for the award of any degree, diploma, fellowship or other similar title of recognition before.**

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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATION**

1. CARB - Centre for Advanced Research in Health and Human
2. DID - Development Induced Displacement
3. DRP - Displacement Resettlement Planning
4. IDP - Internally displaced people
5. IRM - Impact and Resilience Monitoring
6. KIIFB - Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board
7. KILA - Kerala Institute of Local Administration
8. KUDC - Kerala Urban Development Corporation
9. KSUDP - Kerala Sustainable Urban Development Project
10. MR - Metro Rail
11. NGO - Non-Government Organization
12. NGT - National Green Tribunal
13. R&C - Rehabilitation and Compensation
14. SIAR - Social Impact Assessment Report
15. SLF - Sreekariyam Light Flyover
16. UG - Urban Growth
17. UN - United Nations
18. UNIDO - United Nations Industrial Development Organization
19. UNEP - United Nations Environment Programme
20. UOW - Unorganized Workers

## **ABSTRACT**

Development Induced Displacement (DID) constitutes a complex and multifaceted phenomenon, encompassing both positive and negative dimensions. While essential for societal welfare and poverty alleviation, development initiatives bring forth significant improvements in various aspects of modern living, such as transportation, housing, accessibility, and infrastructure. However, this progress often necessitates displacement – a complex and frequently unavoidable consequence. Unlike natural disasters, development activities are meticulously planned, allowing for potential crisis reduction through comprehensive foresight and adept management.

This research focuses on the impact of development induced displacement in the urban region of Sreekariyam, city in Trivandrum district, where unorganized workers grapple with formidable challenges due to the construction of a light metro flyover. The duration of employment these workers have dedicated to the Sreekariyam area is central to their predicament. Many have long depended on this locale for their livelihoods, with a significant portion amassing over two and a half decades of service, rendering them venerable senior citizens. Among the affected, traditional fish vendors and women vendors, deeply ingrained in the community, bear a disproportionate brunt, further amplifying the ramifications.

The study adopts a qualitative methodology to understand the unquantifiable aspects of development induced displacement in the lives of unorganized workers in Sreekariyam, who have been working in the region for more than fifteen years. Through a qualitative approach, this research investigates how the development-induced displacement influenced these workers, utilizing a multiple case study approach. In-depth interviews were conducted to comprehend their experiences, challenges, and coping mechanisms. Thematic analysis revealed significant findings, including the loss of livelihood opportunities, struggles in accessing support and rehabilitation measures, and a sense of social disconnection. Participants expressed mixed sentiments about the development project, highlighting both positive and negative outcomes.

The study conducted in Sreekariyam underscores the urgency of prioritizing the vulnerability of those affected by development induced displacement within the

contexts of rehabilitation and compensation. The extent of adaptation challenges, influenced by the nature of vulnerabilities, emphasizes the need for tailored and empathetic rehabilitation and resettlement strategies. As the realms of development and displacement continuously intersect, the importance of implementing people-centric measures to ensure the well-being and rights of affected populations becomes increasingly apparent.

# **CHAPTER 1- INTRODUCTION**

## 1.1 INTRODUCTION

The city of Sreekariyam, located in Trivandrum, the capital of Kerala, India, has emerged as a major urban centre experiencing rapid urbanization and an increase in vehicular traffic (Sreekariyam, 2023). The surge in vehicles has led to significant traffic congestion, particularly at the Sreekariyam junction, adversely affecting the movement of people and goods. Efforts to address the traffic crisis have included the proposal for constructing a flyover at the junction (The New Indian Express, 2022). However, the construction of this flyover raises concerns regarding the potential displacement of unorganized workers and their influence on the local community.

Factors such as emotional attachment to their ancestral lands, fear of losing a stable source of income, and the prospect of being uprooted from their homes create resistance among landowners and occupants during the land acquisition process (CARB-SIA Report, pg-1). It is crucial to consider the social and economic implications of development-induced displacement, particularly for vulnerable populations, in order to ensure a fair and transparent process.

The earlier studies of displacement and resettlement were related to dams and therefore the concentration was on fragile ecological systems and the affected people were called “down-streamers” and other project-affected persons as “all other river-basin residents” (DeWet, 2002,p.8). Later the studies resulted to redefine the arena of Development Induced Displacement, Resettlement and the concept of Development. The government of India has enacted legislation, such as The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act 2013, to ensure a transparent and scientific approach to determining appropriate compensation for affected individuals. The actual implementation and impact of these policies on the lives of unorganized workers in Sreekariyam deserve further investigation.

Millions of people around the globe are relocated and resettled away from their homes, lands, and livelihoods to make way for large-scale development projects such as dams, reservoirs, power plants, roads, plantations, urban renewal, and oil, gas, and mining

projects. This forced relocation is known as development-induced displacement. (Hoshour and Jennifer 2007).

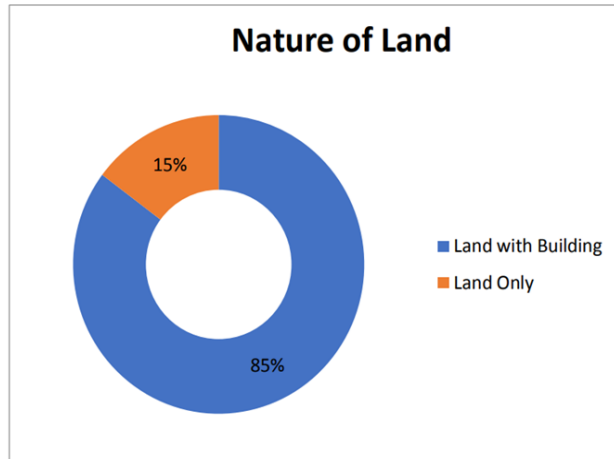
The scale of development-induced displacement has been growing rapidly over the past few decades in most developing countries. The analysis shows the loss of land, casualisation of labour, and loss of livestock assets in the resettlement process. The households perceive economic followed by health-related risks as major risks. Econometric analysis shows that land ownership, education, social category, gender of the head of household, dependence on forests and family size are significant variables in explaining a household's exposure to risk.

Further, a sense of satisfaction with housing and the time taken for resettlement has a positive effect on households' ability to confront displacement risks, whereas episodes of illness have a negative influence. Resettlement and rehabilitation programmes tailored to include vocational training, assistance for self-employment, and strengthening of SHGs and other community-based organisations (CBOs) can have a significant impact on households that have lower adaptation capacity to confront and overcome displacement-related risks. The difficulty in overcoming displacement risks calls for providing full compensation, investment in post-settlement welfare and benefit-sharing measures by not only recognising resettlement as a dynamic process but also by understanding the heterogeneous impacts of this process on seemingly homogeneous households and communities. (Srinivasan, Jeena & Nuthalapati, Chandra. 2020.19)

This dissertation aims to explore the effect of the proposed flyover construction in the Sreekariyam junction on the livelihoods and well-being of unorganized workers in the area. By examining the experiences and perspectives of these unorganized workers, this study seeks to provide valuable insights into the social and economic consequences of development-induced displacement. It aims to inform policy decisions that can safeguard the rights and interests of vulnerable populations in similar urban development projects.



No.	Category	Count	%
1	Land with Building	156	85%
2	Land Only	27	15%



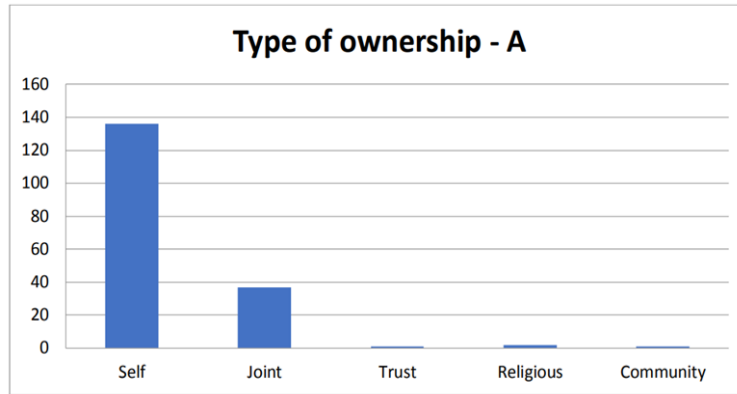
*Figure 1 Nature of Land in the Displaced Area -Social Impact Assessment Report prepared by CARB*

In the areas where people are being displaced in Sreekariyam, the data tells us something important. It shows that in these places, about 85% of the situations involve land that has buildings on it.

This adds up to 156 cases. On the other hand, there's a smaller 15% portion where there's only land without any buildings, and this makes up 27 cases. This information gives us a window into the kinds of places that are being affected by displacement.

This data gives a closer look at who owns the land in Sreekariyam, where development-induced displacement is taking place. It turns out that most of the land is owned individually, with a whopping 135 cases falling into the "Single (Self)" category.

No	Category	Count	%
1	Single (Self)	135	76.27 %
2	Joint	38	21.46 %
3	Trust	1	0.56%
4	Religious	2	1.13
5	Community	1	0.56%%



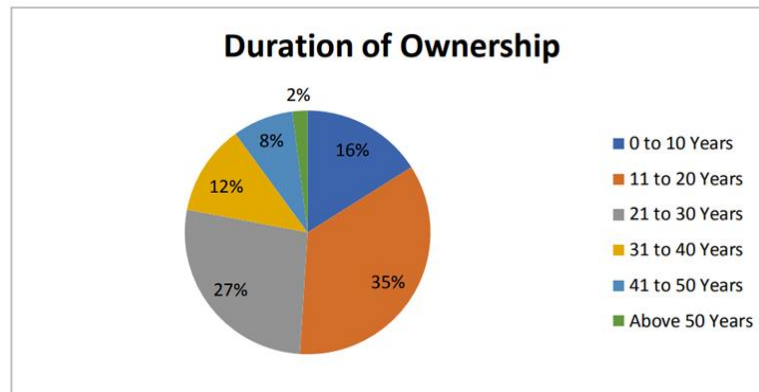
*Figure 2 Type of Ownership of Land - Social Impact Assessment Report prepared by CARB*

But there's more to the story – there are also cases of joint ownership, where 38 instances show people sharing the ownership. That's about 21.46% of the cases. And let's not forget the smaller slices of the pie – There is 1 case where land is held in trust, making up just 0.56%.

There are also 2 cases with a "Religious" affiliation, making up 1.13%, and 1 case under the "Community" category, also at 0.56%. These numbers give us a sneak peek into the different ways people own land when faced with displacement. It's not just about individuals; there's a mix of group ownership styles too, on how people come together to own and manage land.

The journey of ownership comes alive with a touch of intrigue. Imagine, around 16 cases where folks have held onto their land for a solid 10 to 10 years – that's like a decade of connection. And then we glimpse a bit further back, with 2 cases marking ownership for 11 to 20 years.

No	Duration	%
1	0 to 10 Years	16
2	11 to 20 Years	35
3	21 to 30 Years	27
4	31 to 40 Years	12
5	41 to 50 Years	8
6	Above 50 Years	2

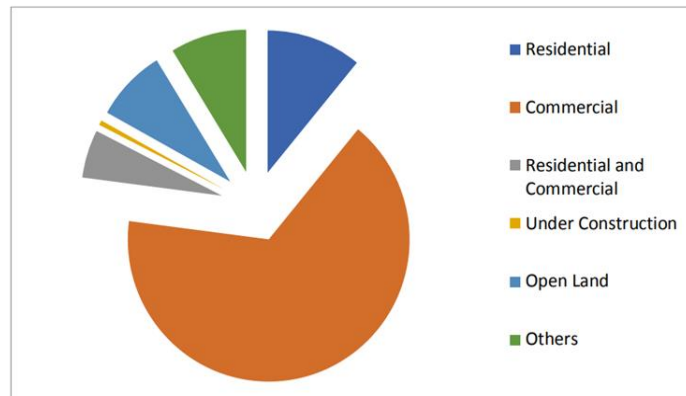


*Figure 3 Duration of Ownership - Social Impact Assessment Report prepared by CARB*

Now, here's where things get even more interesting: the 21 to 30 years category takes the spotlight with 35 cases, showcasing a good chunk of history. Not far behind, there's a group of 27 instances sharing the experience of owning land across those same 21 to 30 years. As we move into the next phase, a dozen instances proudly show ownership that's lasted 31 to 40 years, carrying stories and memories.

A slice of time reveals 8 cases where the bond with the land spans 41 to 50 years – that's a significant stretch. And then, a remarkable sight: 2 instances where ownership stands tall, weathering over 50 years of time's passage. This array of timeframes tells us the diverse moments people have cherished their land, contributing yet another layer to the intricate tale of ownership in this unique context.

No	Categories	Count	%
1	Residential	20	10.92896
2	Commercial	121	66.12022
3	Residential and Commercial	10	5.464481
4	Under Construction	1	0.546448
5	Open Land	15	8.196721
6	Others	16	8.743169

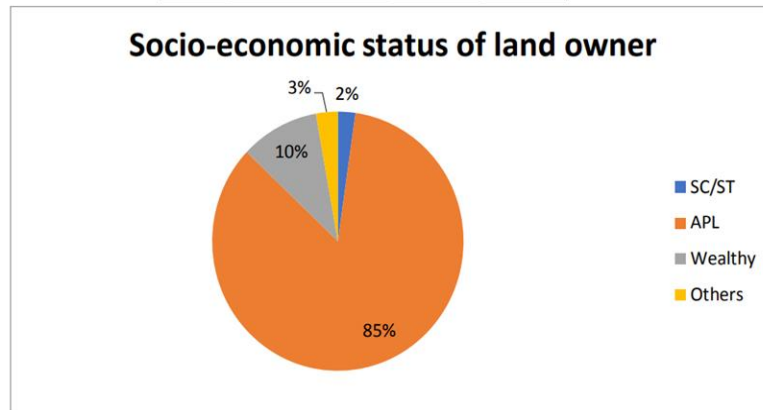


*Figure 4 Social Impact Assessment Report prepared by CARB*

In the Sreekariyam region, development-induced displacement is occurring across various categories of land. These categories include residential, commercial, a combination of residential and commercial, under-construction areas, open land spaces, and other unspecified classifications.

Among these categories, residential areas account for 66.12% of the cases, followed by commercial spaces at 20%. A smaller percentage is attributed to combined residential and commercial zones at 5.46%. Additionally, there are instances involving land under construction (8.20%), open land (0.55%), and other miscellaneous cases (8.74%). These statistics collectively represent the current landscape of development-induced displacement in Sreekariyam.

No	Category	Count	%
1	SC / ST	4	2%
2	BPL	0	0
3	APL	151	85%
4	Wealthy	18	10%
5	Handicapped	0	0
6	Others	5	3%



*Figure 5 Socio - Economic Status of Land Owner- Social Impact Assessment Report prepared by CARB*

The socio-economic status of landowners in the Sreekariyam area is distributed among different categories. The categories include SC/ST (Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe), BPL (Below Poverty Line), APL (Above Poverty Line), Wealthy, Handicapped, and Others.

Among these categories, the majority of landowners, accounting for 85%, fall under the SC/ST classification. There are no landowners categorized as BPL, while the Wealthy category constitutes 10% of the total. Handicapped landowners make up 0% of the group, and the remaining 3% fall into the "Others" category. This breakdown reflects the socio-economic diversity among landowners in the area.



The busy Sreekaryam Junction in Thiruvananthapuram. (Photo | EPS)

*Figure 6 A picture of Sreekariyam before the land acquisition process (Picture Source- online news-India Today)*

This research has far-reaching implications for the field of social work, particularly concerning the challenges and consequences of development-induced displacement in the context of urbanization and infrastructure projects like the proposed Sreekariyam flyover. The study highlights the role of social work in advocating for vulnerable populations, influencing policy formulation, mobilizing communities, providing supportive services, building capacity, promoting social justice, fostering collaborative partnerships, and informing practice based on research findings. Social workers are poised to champion the rights of displaced unorganized workers, actively participate in policy discussions, empower affected communities, offer essential services, enhance the capacity of those impacted, and contribute to equitable and sustainable solutions through collaborative efforts

## **1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

The construction of transportation infrastructure, including roads, highways, and rail systems, has emerged as a leading cause of development-induced displacement, uprooting millions of people globally. In the context of Sreekariyam, a major urban centre in Trivandrum, the proposed construction of a flyover at the junction aims to alleviate heavy traffic congestion. This development project raises concerns regarding

the potential displacement of emotionally attached unorganized workers and the subsequent impact on their livelihoods and well-being.

Unorganized workers in Sreekariyam, who rely on their traditional land as a source of income, face the imminent threat of losing their livelihoods due to the flyover construction. The emotional attachment to their land and the prospect of displacement create resistance among these workers during the land acquisition process. Despite the significant impact on the affected individuals and communities, transportation development projects continue to cause unavoidable displacement, even in developed countries.

According to the World Bank, urban infrastructure and transportation projects account for approximately 60% of development-induced displacement worldwide, affecting around 6 million people annually. This highlights the urgent need to investigate the effects of displacement on unorganized workers in Sreekariyam, Trivandrum, and propose recommendations for policy decisions that prioritize social justice and human rights.

The purpose of this research is to examine the impact of the proposed flyover construction on the livelihoods and well-being of unorganized workers in Sreekariyam. By understanding their experiences and perspectives, this study aims to contribute to the body of knowledge on development-induced displacement and provide insights for policy decisions that protect the rights and interests of vulnerable populations. By examining the implications within the framework of existing policies and regulations, this study aims to generate recommendations for mitigating the adverse effects of development-induced displacement and promoting social justice.

The construction of the flyover in Sreekariyam junction raises critical concerns regarding the potential displacement of emotionally attached unorganized workers and its impact on their livelihoods. With transportation projects accounting for a significant portion of development-induced displacement globally, it is crucial to investigate the specific effects on unorganized workers in Sreekariyam and propose policy

recommendations that uphold social justice and human rights. This research aims to contribute to the understanding of development-induced displacement and inform decision-making processes that prioritize the well-being of vulnerable populations.

This research brings a heartfelt contribution to the realm of Social Work, shining a compassionate light on the complex challenges of development-induced displacement in bustling urban areas and infrastructure projects. Using the example of the proposed Sreekariyam flyover, it delves into the struggles faced by unorganized workers and marginalized communities, whose voices often fade in the background of regular policy discussions. The study bravely questions the limitations of the Land Acquisition Act, urging for a fairer compensation approach that truly understands the deep connection between land and people's livelihoods. Beyond just the economic aspects, it uncovers the profound impact of displacement - how it disrupts not only incomes and jobs but also tears at the fabric of social connections and cultural roots. With a caring heart, the research spotlights the often-forgotten reality of rehabilitation of unorganized workers, revealing a gap in our social welfare safety net and offering hopeful strategies for a brighter future for those uprooted. By getting to know the stories of unorganized workers, the study equips Social Workers with wisdom for building strong communities and fostering empowerment. Ultimately, this work is an empowering beacon for Social Workers, showing the way to advocate for fairer policies, interventions that embrace diverse cultures, and a path toward development that truly values social justice and the overall well-being of our most vulnerable fellow humans.

### **1.3 RELEVANCE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

The Land Acquisition Act in India primarily focuses on compensating landowners based on market value. However, this approach fails to consider the livelihoods of a large number of individuals who depend on the land for their sustenance, including employees, village artisans, and merchants who buy the produce (Mahapatra, 1999a). For these individuals, the land is not just a status symbol or an income-generating asset but a vital component of their life system, providing them with food, fodder, medicine, and more.



The loss of land due to acquisition has far-reaching consequences, leading to a breakdown of the recycling system of income, employment, and livelihood. It also disrupts social relationships and age-old religious-cultural factors associated with the land. This highlights the need to examine the impacts of development-induced displacement beyond purely economic aspects.

One crucial aspect highlighted by this study is the neglect of rehabilitation colonies in India. These colonies, where displaced individuals are relocated, lack legal standing and recognition (Jojo, 2003). Consequently, the marginalized sections affected by development find themselves alienated from the capitalistic framework rather than integrated into it (Jojo, 2003). This further emphasizes the significance of investigating the condition of unorganized workers in Sreekariyam to understand the situation of the marginalized communities affected by development-induced displacement.

By exploring the ongoing development and displacement in Sreekariyam, this study aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the condition of unorganized workers in the context of land acquisition. The findings will contribute to the discourse on inclusive development and advocate for policies that address not only economic aspects but also social, cultural, and environmental well-being.

This study's relevance lies in addressing the shortcomings of the Land Acquisition Act, examining the multifaceted impacts of displacement on livelihoods and social systems, and highlighting the marginalized status of rehabilitation colonies. By focusing on the condition of unorganized workers in Sreekariyam, the study aims to provide valuable insights into ongoing development and displacement, advocating for more inclusive and comprehensive approaches to mitigate the adverse effects on vulnerable populations.

#### **1.4 CHAPTERIZATION**

The chapterization of the research dissertation is as follows:

Chapter I: Introduction

Chapter II: Review of Literature

Chapter III: Methodology

Chapter IV: Case Description

Chapter V: Thematic Analysis and Discussion

Chapter VI: Findings, Suggestions and Conclusion

Bibliography

## **CHAPTER 2 -LITERATURE REVIEW**

## **2.1 INTRODUCTION**

This literature review aims to critically examine existing research and data on the effect of development-induced displacement. By analysing relevant studies, reports, and academic literature, this review seeks to explore the multifaceted challenges faced by displaced unorganized workers and shed light on the social, economic, and policy implications of their displacement.

The review begins by providing an overview of the concepts of development, unorganized workers, displacement, development-induced displacement, global point of view and major problems of DID contextualizing the research within the broader literature on these topics. The literature review also focuses on specific studies that investigate the impacts of development-induced displacement, focusing on aspects such as livelihoods, employment patterns, income levels, social networks, and access to social protection. The review also examines the existing policies, legal frameworks, and institutional mechanisms designed to mitigate the negative effects of displacement and evaluates their effectiveness in the context of Sreekariyam.

## **2.2 Development**

1. A second reason for the relative invisibility of development. places are that the people most vulnerable in the face of pow state and capital interests are those who occupy the lands (for example, in highland, forest, riverine or other isolated areas) most commonly targeted for development projects. In India it is estimated that forty per cent of the 23 million people displaced by national development are 'tribals' who form only eight per cent of the c try's population (Fernandes 1994:32). As Posey describes so cl in Brazil, it is the Indian population, marginalised by a system that considers them 'relatively incapable' and renders them invisible in decision-taking over resource exploitation on Indian 'protected lands', who are the most vulnerable group in Brazilian society Indeed, according to Gray, it is indigenous people in general who are particularly affected by the construction of dams 'not only personally, but because of the threats on their lands, lives and cultures. Recently, as Oliver-Smith recounts, resistance to development pro- jects requiring the

resettlement of marginal populations has attracted far greater attention to the plight of indigenous people and has made them less invisible, though perhaps no less vulnerable. The issue of resistance to development and its implications in terms of social conflict and the planning and execution of resettlement programmes is addressed in this volume by Andrew Gray, Anthony Oliver-Smith, Alicia Barabas and Miguel Bartolomé, and Darrell Posey. (McDowell, 1996, 4,5)

2. There are deep causes at the roots of these social conflicts. While surely there are projects where involuntary resettlement can and should be avoided entirely, equally surely, there are many cases where infrastructural projects are indispensable and where developing societies must balance benefits such as safe water supplies, irrigation, efficient transportation systems or urban growth with the costs and pains of resettlement. Many development programmes intrinsically embody or entail this kind of political and economic trade-offs and conflict. These conflicts occur because long-term national or regional interests served by these programmes often cut across the interests of smaller groups, local communities or some individuals. National interests and needs usually prevail. Conflict emerges because the gains expected from these projects in the long term impose hard-to-bear losses in the short term. As one resettler in India summarised it, 'For their tomorrow, we are giving our today.' Development can never be completely free of conflicts. However, is unacceptable to unnecessarily exacerbate, instead of reconcile, such conflicts in the absence of protective social policies (McDowell, 1996, 28)

### **2.3 Unorganized Workers**

1. Unorganised workers consist of "those working in the unorganized sector or households, excluding regular workers with social security benefits provided by the employers and the workers in the formal sector without any employment and social security benefits provided by the employers" (NCEUS 2009). They constitute the neglected and vulnerable segments of workers. Most of them are poor and illiterate, do not have any assets, and also do not possess any marketable skills. Many of them are subject to occupational illness and hazards and lack awareness of laws that protect them. The activities in which they are engaged usually escape the attention of the government machinery for enforcing labour

laws and regulations, and even for providing social security. (Ramanujam & Rawal, 2010, 16)

2. The unorganized sector is the source of work and livelihood for workers in almost every sub-sector of India's industrial economy. Their working conditions, earnings and social security issues have received much attention (NCEUS, 2008). The reasons are well known. Unorganized workers belong to the uncovered sector without access to employment security benefits and are more likely to bear the brunt of negative economic shocks due either to global or domestic economic conditions. The NCEUS report argues that about 79 per cent of the unorganized workers were living below Rs.20 per day. They constitute India's working poor. The impact of economic policy reforms on unorganized sector workers in particular is a much debated issue. There are few systematic studies. One study based on Non-Directory Manufacturing Establishments (NDME) for the period 1985 to 2001 argues that the real wage of informal sector workers has risen during the post-trade liberalization period (Marjit & Kar, 2009)'. A similar result of positive grUnorganized sector is the source of work and livelihood for workers in almost every sub-sector of India's industrial economy. Their working conditions, earnings and social security issues have received much attention (NCEUS, 2008). The reasons are well known. Unorganized workers belong to the uncovered sector without access to employment security benefits and are more likely to bear the brunt of negative economic shocks due either to global or domestic economic conditions. The NCEUS report argues that about 79 per cent of the unorganized workers were living below Rs.20 per day. They constitute India's working poor. The impact of economic policy reforms on unorganized sector workers in particular is a much debated issue. There are few systematic studies. One study based on Non-Directory Manufacturing Establishments (NDME) for the period 1985 to 2001 argues that the real wage of informal sector workers has risen during the post-trade liberalization period (Marjit & Kar, 2009)'. (Ramaswamy, 2013, 438)

#### **2.4 Displacement**

1. Population displacement is a scourge on the societies affected by it. All sections of society feel the impact of people voluntarily or involuntarily moving away from

their homes and subsequently face a number of risks. Many of these risks are never mitigated. Displacement of people has been referred to as the movement of people from their localities or environment and their occupational activities. It can be termed as a 'social change' which is the result of a number of factors including armed conflicts, natural disasters, famines, development and economic changes. It has been observed that 'armed conflicts' constitutes the most common reason for population displacement. It is also viewed that displaced people in the context of emergencies as 'people who have had to leave their homes as a result of a natural, technological or deliberate event'. (Antony Chully & Dr Hemalatha, 2017, 1)

## **2.5 Development Induced Displacement**

1. Natural resource extraction, urban renewal, industrial parks, and infrastructural projects including highways, bridges, irrigation canals, and dams require large tracts of land for their development. The required land is therefore acquired by the concerned developers (who may be the government or private players) from individuals, groups and communities who previously owned or occupied it. It is clear that these projects displace a large number of people from their original places of residence. The term 'development-induced displacement' has been coined to describe this type of displacement which is primarily caused by development projects. (Antony Chully & Dr Hemalatha, 2017, 4)
2. In contrast, displacement because of development interventions typically related to infrastructure projects such as dams (which flood massive areas), roads, state-owned plantations, mining, pipelines, and urban reconstructionist estimated to be between 100 and 200 million people since 1980. (Agrawal & Redford, 2009, 2)
3. Indigenous peoples are particularly affected by the construction of dams because they are frequently found in more isolated areas and because of their special sacred ties to their territories and cultures. Relocation is a traumatic experience for indigenous peoples not only personally but because of the threats on their lands, lives and cultures. However, this is not to say that indigenous peoples suffer any more than other 'oustees', but rather that their specific characteristics are sufficiently prominent to draw attention to factors other than the economic, social and individual traumas discussed frequently in studies of relocation. (McDowell, 1996, 101)

4. Development-induced displacement is one of the defining characteristics of our time and remains a highly contested concept. Its debilitating consequences are experienced at many different levels. While development projects offer increased opportunities for some, they also impose costs, often borne by its poorest and most marginalized members. Indeed, each year large numbers of people lose their homes, their livelihoods, their health and even their lives to such projects. The loss of selfhood and identity is particularly devastating for youth. The lack of a clear legal and institutional framework for the assistance and protection of development displacement is a fundamental problem; it places limits on securing resources and providing a comprehensive operational response. Responses to the plight of affected persons should combine an assessment of impoverishment risks (such as increased morbidity, and joblessness) with recognition of their rights. Marginal Zones is not meant to provide a comprehensive treatment of the topic of development-induced displacement. Internal displacement creates vulnerability because it separates people from their family and community structures, terminates employment relationships, ends formal education opportunities, limits access to vital health services and denies or limits access to land and traditional patterns of natural resource use. So far, the international community has been more concerned about refugees and others fleeing from persecution (D'Souza & Madangopal, 2010, 1,2)

## **2.6 Loss of Access to Common Property**

1. The risk of landlessness would have been greater if the display persons' loss of access to common property, governed by a land tenure system such as *pods* cultivation, was also taken into consideration when assessing land loss. Until the use of 'impoverishment risks' analysis, the assessment of the extent of the landlessness of the project-affected people had been limited only to calculating the Id of land due to land acquisition. (McDowell, 1996, 226)
2. Acquisition of land and other assets for development projects deprives people of their livelihood. Some of them are displaced and others are alienated from their livelihood without physical relocation. Over and above the DPs and PAPs are the indirect DPs of development i.e. persons whom the environmental impact of projects forces to move out when the schemes "generate waste, for example, thermal power plants, aluminium plants..." or other "waste disposal affects land fertility,



health etc" (Ganguly Thukral 1999: 11). It is next to impossible to count their numbers. No methodology has been developed for this purpose. So they were not included in this study too. (Fernandes et al., 2012, 7)

## **2.7 Democratic Right**

1. The basic tenet of a democratic form of government is that power flows from the free will of each individual and is joined through a compact to create the will of the community. People are elected to carry out the wishes of those who give them power. While the democratic argument may be more ideal than the practice, a nevertheless provides a unique basis for substantive participation, through local citizen organizations and suggests that citizen participation is a necessary procedure to follow in formulating policies and plans. (Jones & Pandey, 1981, 115)
2. Examining the history of a number of inventions, he found that while material culture accumulates its traits building on one another-non-material culture fails to keep pace with it. In fact, the latter contains some built-in elements-force of habit, sanctity of tradition, vested interests, and so forth-that resist adaptation and change. This results in a lag. Simply stated, the concept of cultural lag suggested that inventions are incorporated into a culture in two stages: in the first stage, behaviour is changed bit by bit to accommodate the invention; in the second, institutions and belief systems are changed to permit the fullest scope to the invention. At this time, means for the control of its effects are also devised. The time between the first and the second stages is the cultural lag, which possibly accounts for several features of society such as tensions and conflicts. This concept illustrates an aspect of the process of change, but it does not explain much of the change itself. It has some other drawbacks also. The distinction between "material culture" and "adaptive culture" is simplistic. Institutional interrelations are far too complex to admit any such simple dichotomies. Ogburn does not appear to take note of resistances in the field of material culture itself. These are often considerable. An adaptive culture may not be as change-resistant as he suggests: at any rate, not in all aspects. Ogburn could not possibly have visualized the reverse pattern of lag witnessed in many developing societies today where, through massive education, an elite has been created that it clamouring for technological change but where technology is not forthcoming. (Dube, 1992, 59)

3. The human rights and displacement debate is fuelled by the devastating impacts of some mega-development projects and the increasing evidence that economic redistribution and adequate compensation seldom occur. The majority of those displaced by development projects fare badly long after such projects are launched, as do the minority who officially received compensation. (Agrawal & Redford, 2009, 3)
4. This analysis of grief and mourning has been concerned with situations of loss which we recognise as painful. But by the same argument, a similar process of adjustment should work itself out whenever the familiar pattern of life has been disrupted. For once the predictability of events has been invalidated-whether from the collapse of the internal structure of purpose, or of our ability to comprehend the environment-life will be unmanageable until the continuity of meaning can be restored, through a process of abstraction and redefinition. From the example of bereavement, this process seems likely to evolve through the gradual resolution of a conflict between attempts to retain the past and to escape altogether from its consequences, by which a viable reinterpret- time is reached. Even changes that we scarcely think to involve loss may be analysable in similar terms. (Marris, 1974, 41)
5. While examining the role of industrialization in social structural change, it is essential to look at the pattern separately for economic and non-economic aspects. An industrial city may result in a greater degree of urbanism and modernity in some, mainly the economic dimensions, while the periphery of an educational/administrative city may be more so in the non-economic spheres. So the concept of urbanism needs further clarification, keeping in view the peculiarities of the Indian social system. The various factors which influence people in taking up non-traditional activities, migrating to the rural or urban centres and preferring one or the other type of household have to be examined. Similarly, instead of explaining the increase or decline in the degree of residential segregation with the help of urbanization, the other factors, such as the governmental measures and the extent of occupational mobility of the low castes, have to be carefully investigated. (Gill, 1991, 99)
6. In the ongoing discourse on development and the search for a model of sustainable development, displacement has become a crucial concern. Though a vast amount of literature is available on the concept of development and its benefits, there is a striking paucity of data on the problems created by it, especially displacement,

resettlement and rehabilitation. There is also a conspicuous lack of any national policy regarding these issues. In the context of growing human rights consciousness, this problem acquires serious dimensions challenging the administrators, academicians and activists to respond to this issue proactively. The ultimate purpose of this research is to raise national consciousness on the enormity of human suffering created by development projects through displacement, often without resettlement, of large masses of the Indian population, particularly the weaker sections, and to support the victims through policy changes in their favour. (Murickan & Indian Social Institute (Bangalore, India), 2003, 23)

## **2.8 A Historical Perspective of Development-induced Displacement**

1. Development has always involved a paradox. Although intended to diminish poverty, it has often contributed to it by uprooting large numbers of people from familiar homes and homelands. Ingersoll (1988) stated, "Development as a process of change is basically an assault on the unknown and a creative adaptation of similar experiences from elsewhere, rather than a playing out of conventional procedures." Historically, the Grand Canal built in China, initially in the 7th Century, displaced substantial numbers of people. The Enclosure Movement in Europe in the shift from feudalism to capitalism in agriculture displaced large numbers of people as did the development of textile factories that displaced cottage weavers (indirectly, through the operation of the market). The problem of development-induced displacement (DID) is one of growing proportions, particularly in the light of increasing globalisation. This phenomenon refers to the forcing of individuals and communities out of their homes for the purpose of economic development. Geographically, this movement may be within the city or district, or extend to long distances and to economically, socially and culturally different settings. If displacement and resettlement to more densely-populated areas with better access to services can bring about improvements in human capital outcomes, then there is compelling evidence to support such a developmental policy. However, if it is so disruptive as to compromise human capital outcomes, this poses a fundamental question of whether economic development to improve people's living conditions is desirable, especially when it restricts the people's ability to make life choices. (D'Souza & Madangopal, 2010, 4,6)

## **2.9 Development Induced Displacement in China**

1. In China, in the first 40 years following the establishment of the People's Republic of China, the government resettled an average of 800,000 people per year for development purposes." Its Three Gorges Dam project (launched in 1994 and due to be completed in 2009) will displace the populations of 17 cities and 109 towns in 19 counties-a total of more than 1.2 million people.<sup>28</sup> Of these, 395,000 have already been moved. Studies on persons resettled because of dams reveal that most are left in poverty and only one-third are able to reestablish their lives at satisfactory levels (D'Souza & Madangopal, 2010, 18)

## **2.10 Development Induced Displacement in Myanmar**

1. In Myanmar (Burma), the State Peace and Development Council carried out numerous evictions of 'squatters' in the name of urban development and beautification. According to US State Department reports, between 1988 and 1994, an estimated 500,000 residents of Rangoon were removed from their homes- often to break up anti-government strongholds in the city and relocated to satellite settlements outside the city. An earlier report from the UN Center for Human Settlements (UN-Habitat) estimated that between 1989 and 1990, about 1.5 million people nationwide had been relocated, half of them from the four cities of Rangoon, Mandalay, Bago and Taunggyi. (D'Souza & Madangopal, 2010, 20)

## **2.11 Development Induced Displacement in Indonesia**

1. In Indonesia, 40,000-50,000 people were displaced by the Jabotabek urban development project which involved the widening and upgrading of roads in Jakarta and nearby cities. In Dhaka, Bangladesh from May 1999, 100,000 people (20,000 households) in 44 settlements lost their homes and belongings during a forced eviction that occurred without any prior written warning. A majority of those evicted were single mothers with children, many working in the city's 2,000 garment factories located around the city center. (D'Souza & Madangopal, 2010, 21)

## **2.12 Displacement Induced Displacement in India**

1. Displacement is not a recent phenomenon. There is evidence of development-induced displacement already from the era of the Guptas from the 3rd to the 6th century A.D. It seems to have continued to some extent in the Mughal Age and picked up momentum under the British. The post-independence measures have resulted in much more displacement than in colonial times with the difference that now it is in the name of national development. That was the reason for fixing 1951, the year of the First Five-year Plan, as the starting point for the study. The study covered the period up to 1995, which was originally meant to be the last year of the Eighth Plan. Besides, it comes four years after the promulgation of the New Economic Policy in 1991. This also enables us to understand its impact by looking at future trends. (Murickan & Indian Social Institute (Bangalore, India), 2003, 23,24) Rural/Urban Development

## **2.13 Development-Induced Displacement in the Indian Sub-continent**

1. The first signs of development-induced-displacement in India were seen during British Rule. Britain fed on the resources of India to fulfil their industrial and consumption needs back home. To catalyze the process of resource exploitation, it established a number of developmental projects like railways, textile mills, hydroelectric and irrigation projects in the Indian state. The indigenous people not only lost their lands due to these projects but also their traditional livelihoods. The projects ate into the space of sea coasts, forests, inland water bodies, grazing lands, farmlands, etc. The high demand for land prompted the enactment of the Land Acquisition Act, of 1894. (Antony Chully & Dr Hemalatha, 2017, 7)
2. In India, estimating the number of people displaced is problematic, mainly due to the fact that regular monitoring is not possible in this huge country which lacks a central authority responsible for coordinating data from central and state governments. The nature, frequency and extent of the causes of internal displacement in India vary greatly, making the task of monitoring and recording a Herculean one. Added to these are the issues of political sensitivities. The latest World Refugee Survey put the total number of IDPs in India at 507,000, while according to the India Social Institute in Delhi and the Global IDP Project,29 21.3

million people were displaced by development projects, of which 16.4 million were due to dams. Dams displace an average of 44,182 persons. (D'Souza & Madangopal, 2010, 19)

#### **2.14 Displacement and Deprivation in the Colonial Age and After 1947**

1. As stated above, displacement existed from ancient times but has become a human rights issue today because of the alarming proportions it assumed in the colonial era and its intensification after 1947. It is important to understand continuity in order to situate the issue of development-induced displacement in its proper context. (Fernandes et al., 2012, 11)

#### **2.15 Displaced and Affected Persons in Kerala**

1. In our estimate, the total number of persons affected by development projects in Kerala during the 1951-95 period is 5,52,233 which is 1.90 per cent of the total population in Kerala. Obviously, this is a conservative estimate. Of the 5,52,233 persons affected by development projects, 40 per cent are displaced and the remaining, are PAPs. In several projects, it was difficult to get caste-wise data regarding the number of persons affected. However, we can observe some trends. The Tribals in Kerala are located in specific districts like Wayanad, Idukki, Palakkad and Thiruvananthapuram. Forest land was acquired mainly for water resources and environment protection projects. A major share of the projects of these categories is located in these districts where the Tribal population is relatively higher. (Murickan & Indian Social Institute (Bangalore, India), 2003, 183)
2. Land acquired for housing schemes, office complexes, stadia, commercial centres, public markets, hospitals and playgrounds were included under this category. It was during the 1971-81 decade that more land for urban/rural development was acquired (45.35%). Twenty-four per cent of the land acquisition during this period was from the Ernakulam district, 22.57 per cent from Malapuram and 13.99 per cent from Thiruvananthapuram district. The Gazette data give the impression that 9.01 per cent of the total land acquisition was for this category. An area of 4674.39 ha. was acquired for this purpose. (Murickan & Indian Social Institute (Bangalore, India), 2003, 137)

## **2.16 Reactions of Local Leaders**

1. It is important to examine the reaction of the local leaders towards the development projects. The local leaders can play an effective role in generating public opinion either for or against the project. The degree of threat to life and livelihood is a major factor in the reaction to the project. The greater the threat to life, greater will be the agitation and unity among the local community. (Murickan & Indian Social Institute (Bangalore, India), 2003, 233)

## **2.17 Resettlement and Rehabilitation**

1. The dictionary meaning of the word 'rehabilitate', from which rehabilitation is derived, means to restore to rank, privileges, reputation, etc., which one had lost. A second meaning is to put back in good condition (Webster's New World Dictionary, 1974). In the fast-developing world where the development process physically displaces people through land acquisition, rehabilitation of the displaced deserves greater importance. In this context, the application of the meaning and definition of rehabilitation is to be looked into systematically and analytically. If rehabilitation means restoration of the DPs to their rank, privileges and reputation or putting them back in good condition, it implies that their situation after rehabilitation should be at least equal to their previous state or should, in fact, be better, because of the price they pay for development. In any case, it should not be worse than before. (Murickan & Indian Social Institute (Bangalore, India), 2003, 277)

## **2.18 Core Issues Around Displacement**

1. The mode of acquiring land is another issue that affects the poor negatively. The Land Acquisition Act, 1894 is an enabling and overriding piece of legislation. It does not impose any obligation on the State or the project authorities to search for non-displacing or least displacing alternatives before opting for a people-displacing project. The people have a right to a life with dignity (Art.21), and the right to inhabit any part of the Indian territory (Art.19.1e). But, the Act deprives the people of these rights, often forcefully, without their involvement in the decision concerning the loss of their livelihood. They are displaced without their consent and on terms fixed by the displacing agency without their knowledge. Their exclusion

from the decision concerning their very survival reduces them to a state of helplessness and fatalism. (Murickan & Indian Social Institute (Bangalore, India), 2003, 343)

### **2.19 International Community - Responses**

1. For millions of people worldwide, the experience of development has meant a separation of local life from a sense of place. Populations that have been obliged to move by development projects pose a special challenge to the international community. They may not have crossed a border, yet they have been evicted from their places of habitual residence; their lives and livelihoods are disrupted and they face the challenges of resettling in unfamiliar, often inhospitable locations. Changes arising from development-induced displacement are generally irrevocable and allow people little to no chance whatever, of returning to their pre-displacement lives. It is this irrevocability, together with losses that are planned and carried out in the wider public interest (as defined by the state) that differentiates development-induced displacement from those caused by conflict or natural disasters. Those affected may have a limited choice of relocation options, but one thing they lack is the choice to remain in situ. (D'Souza & Madangopal, 2010, 8)

### **2.20 Development-induced Displacement and International Human Rights Law**

1. Human rights may be deemed to represent the harm-prevention approach, but there are two aspects of contemporary human- rights theory that must be acknowledged. One is that human rights are not merely rights against being harmed, but are also entitlements to certain benefits from the cooperative project of society. This typically requires economic development of certain kinds. Secondly, human rights have been attributed not merely to individuals, but also to societies as a whole. Thus the right to development is a collective right that can stand in tension with the right of individuals or local groups."
2. Human rights standards are an important component of development policy. Human rights accountability should be recognised as being able to support developmental activities. This is the basis of a rights-based approach to development. Ideally, a



rights-based approach to development requires effective legal enforcement - if not, at least legal action that monitors respect for rights. The human rights and displacement debate is fuelled by the devastating impacts of some mega-development projects and the increasing evidence that economic redistribution and adequate compensation seldom occur. The majority of those displaced by development projects fare badly long after such projects are launched, as do the minority who officially received compensation. Development-induced displaces may not benefit from a comprehensive and legally binding protection regime under international law, but they do derive benefits from well-established general human rights standards that apply to all human beings. Even if governments evict people on legal grounds, the manner in which they do so has to follow certain fundamental rules that these state bodies have formally agreed to respect. (D'Souza & Madangopal, 2010, 9,10)

3. The growing numbers of internally displaced present a formidable challenge. No country has made the effort to capture the extent of displacement through livelihood loss, but there is little doubt that the scale is truly massive. Estimates are rough and vary widely from source to source, be they international agencies, governmental or non-governmental organisations. This may be partly attributed to the fact that internal displacement occurs within the country and does not attract enough attention for documentation. Assessments sponsored by the World Bank have estimated that every year since 1990, roughly 10 million people worldwide have been displaced involuntarily by infrastructural development projects. (D'Souza & Madangopal, 2010, 15)

### **2.21 Displacement and Women**

1. Studies show that displacement affects women differently from men and the form that it takes can greatly exacerbate existing gender inequalities, undermining the position of women and their power to exercise control over their lives. Very little empirical data exists on the impact of development-induced displacement on women. It affects women's right to inherit land and property. Over a period of time, cumulative effects of personal loss may result in depression, physical deterioration and often post-traumatic stress. Sometimes, marriages do not survive this trauma. In the long term, there is a permanent loss of social and cultural ties, termination of

career and regular employment, and disruption or loss of educational opportunities. In India, in practice, significant and persistent gaps exist between women's legal rights and their actual ownership of landed property; between the limited ownership rights they enjoy and their effective control over landed assets. Their legal rights over land are rarely recognised to be legitimate as they are seen to conflict with deeply entrenched social and cultural norms. The pressures exerted by social stigma, seclusion practices and other sanctions frequently force women to forfeit their legal entitlements. (D'Souza & Madangopal, 2010, 36,37)

## **2.22 Status of Women**

1. Displaced women are vulnerable to economic exploitation both in the private and public spheres. They suffer due to reduced economic choices and a lack of social support in the new area. Being unskilled or semi-skilled, they often become a source of extremely cheap labour and the money they make is often below the minimum necessary to survive. They usually perform low-paid work like doing laundry or housekeeping. In the private sphere, women become men's 'reserve force' in the event that the latter lose their usual means of livelihood. They seek meagre employment. In the public sphere, small-scale capitalists offer women an extremely low wage, which is not sufficient to support themselves, let alone their families. Especially in the private sector, women may suffer discrimination both because they are displaced and because they are women. Often there are strong pressures on women to forfeit their legal rights in favour of men - father, husband or son- and these are reinforced by social stigmas, practices of seclusion and other sanctions (D'Souza & Madangopal, 2010, 89)

## **2.23 Gender Relations and Gender Roles**

1. The impact of displacement on gender relations and the status of women at the household and community levels had its variations and, in this regard, socioeconomic conditions and ethno-religious factors played significant roles. The travails of displaced women stemmed from the already existing inequalities within the Indian society and family. Patriarchal hierarchies resisted changes or modifications in gender relations. Even though some women were employed post-

displacement, they continued to be engaged in the informal sector- they were unskilled, illiterate and tended to do menial jobs leaving them open to exploitation. They were not involved in making financial decisions in their households and were also ignored for rehabilitation purposes. (D'Souza & Madangopal, 2010, 91)

#### **2.24 Social Disintegration**

1. When social systems come together to form larger systems, the process is termed as social integration. When these systems break apart to form smaller systems, the process can be termed as social disintegration. After disintegration, the original system is no longer a 'self-regulating unit of behaviour and depends upon an external agency for control and assuring its members of welfare. The process of disintegration can take place over a period of time, wherein the bonds keeping the system intact weaken gradually. As against this, in cases of certain man-made disasters (like war) and natural disasters (like earthquakes), disintegration can be quite sudden and drastic leaving its victims in a state of shock (Goldsmith, 1971) (Antony Chully & Dr Hemalatha, 2017, 26)

#### **2.25 Health Related Risks**

1. Research has shown that people are more prone to be affected by illnesses after displacement than before. The absence of a preventive and curative health care system contributes to people's vulnerabilities to diseases and deaths. Besides, empirical studies have proven that a strong connection exists between homelessness (one of the consequences of displacement) and increased morbidity/mortality (Cernea, 2004). Ferraro & Borup and assoc. note that (as cited in Cernea, 2004) there are certain groups, like the elderly and the young, who are affected to a greater extent after losing their homes when compared to the general population. Padjadjaran University reports that (as cited in Cernea, 2004) high mortality rates are seen also because of either accidents in connection with new reservoirs, or epidemic outbreaks around new water bodies. For instance, the lack of effective dissemination of information and precautionary measures led to more than a hundred deaths by drowning at Saguling Dam Lake (Indonesia) during the first 14 months of operation. At Cirata reservoir (Indonesia), 10 people drowned in the first

10 months after impounding (Padjadjaran, University, 1989). (Antony Chully & Dr Hemalatha, 2017, 58,59)

### **2.26 The difference in Experience of Loss of Livelihood and Land**

1. It can be understood that land does not merely have an economic implication Ownership of land is said to be directly proportional to social status. The land distribution pattern in India shows that people owning large amounts of land, generally hail from the 'upper castes'. People who cultivate land are observed to belong to the 'middle castes' and the landless agricultural labourers are mostly the Dalits and Adivasis. According to the 1991 census, 64% of Dalits and 36% of tribal persons were landless; the National Sample Survey of 1992 showed that 13.34% of Dalits and 11.50% of tribal persons were landless; and the Ninth Draft Plan Paper of 1997 revealed that 77% of Dalits and 90% of tribal persons were landless. Even though the statistics don't seem consistent and raise the question of reliability, it is obvious that a large percentage of the Dalit and Adivasi population does not own land-the most priced asset of rural India. These observations are obvious from the report of the Committee on State Agrarian Relations, (2009). (Antony Chully & Dr Hemalatha, 2017, 114,115)

### **2.27 Economic Aspects**

1. Development-induced displacement has brought about a profound economic and sociocultural disruption to the victims of displaced communities. While forced displacement affects both men and women, women experience displacement and relocation in a particularly gendered way. This differential impact on women occurs due to the gendered division of labour that has arisen from socio-historical processes of men's traditional incorporation in the wage-earning and labour-oriented tasks while women remain on the land jobs and its management on a daily basis. Resettlement and rehabilitation policies expose the male biases inherent in the insensitivity of the governments towards the needs of women. This paper examines the lived experiences of displaced women based on the empirical findings of research that looks at women displaced by the construction of the Tehri Dam and their relocation elsewhere. (ASTHANA, 2012, 96)

## **2.28 Research Gap Analysis**

The research gap analysis highlights the existing literature's limitations in addressing the specific impact of the construction of a flyover in the Sreekariyam area on the lives of unorganized workers. While previous studies have explored the overall effects of displacement and rehabilitation policies, they have not delved into detailed case studies that examine the implications of specific development projects on vulnerable groups like unorganized workers.

The research identifies the construction of the Sreekariyam flyover, as part of the proposed metro rail project, as a significant event that may have severe implications for the unorganized workers in the area.

There is a lack of research that specifically investigates the impact of this flyover construction on the livelihoods, living conditions, and social and economic well-being of the unorganized workers.

To fill this research gap, the present study aims to conduct an in-depth analysis of the particular case of the Sreekariyam flyover construction and its effects on unorganized workers. By focusing on this specific context, the research aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by unorganized workers in relation to the flyover project, including the potential disruption of their livelihoods and living conditions.

By highlighting the unique challenges and experiences of these workers, the research aims to contribute to the development of targeted policies and interventions that can address their needs and ensure more equitable and sustainable development

## **CHAPTER 3 – METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 TITLE OF THE STUDY**

“The Effect of Development-Induced Displacement on the Unorganized Workers in Sreekariyam, Trivandrum”

### **3.2 RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

#### **3.2.1 Central Research Question**

- What are the socio-economic and health challenges for the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam in reference to the land acquisition for flyover construction?

#### **3.2.2 Specific Research Questions**

- What is development according to the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam?
- What social challenges are faced by the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam regarding the land acquisition for flyover construction?
- What are the economic challenges faced by the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam in reference to the land acquisition for flyover construction?
- What are the health challenges faced by the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam in reference to the land acquisition for flyover construction?
- What are the coping mechanisms employed by unorganized workers to mitigate the adverse effects of land acquisition?

### **3.3 DEFINITION OF CONCEPTS**

#### **3.3.1 UNORGANIZED WORKERS**

- **3.3.1 Conceptual Definition**

The term unorganized worker has been defined under the Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act, 2008, as a home-based worker, self-employed worker or a wage worker in the unorganized sector and includes a worker in the organized sector who is not covered by any of the Acts mentioned in Schedule-II of Act i.e. the Employee's Compensation Act, 1923 (3 of 1923), the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 (14 of 1947), the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 (34 of 1948), the Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provision Act, 1952 (19 of 1952), the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 (53 of 1961) and the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972 (39 of 1972). (Ministry of Labour & Employment- 22 Nov 2021)

- **3.3.2 Operational Definition**

In the context of this study, the term "unorganized worker" refers to individuals who are engaged in various occupations in Sreekariyam, Trivandrum, and do not have formal employment arrangements or significant organizational support. These workers typically operate in commercial establishments, such as small shops, street vendors, or local markets. The term encompasses small-scale entrepreneurs who run their own businesses, such as micro-enterprises or self-employment ventures, without being part of a larger organized sector. These unorganized workers often lack access to social security benefits, formal contracts, or regulatory protections typically enjoyed by workers in the organized sector.

### **3.4 DEVELOPMENT INDUCED DISPLACEMENT**

- **3.4.1 Conceptual Definition**

Development-induced displacement can be defined as the forcing of communities and individuals out of their homes, often also their homelands, for the purposes of economic development projects which can be geographical displacement or can be across long distances and borders, sometimes economically, socially, and culturally quite different settings. In broader terms, displacement includes moving from economic activities and cultural practices without geographic moves and such move is a global phenomenon due to the increasing political, economic and cultural globalization (Boss, 2003).



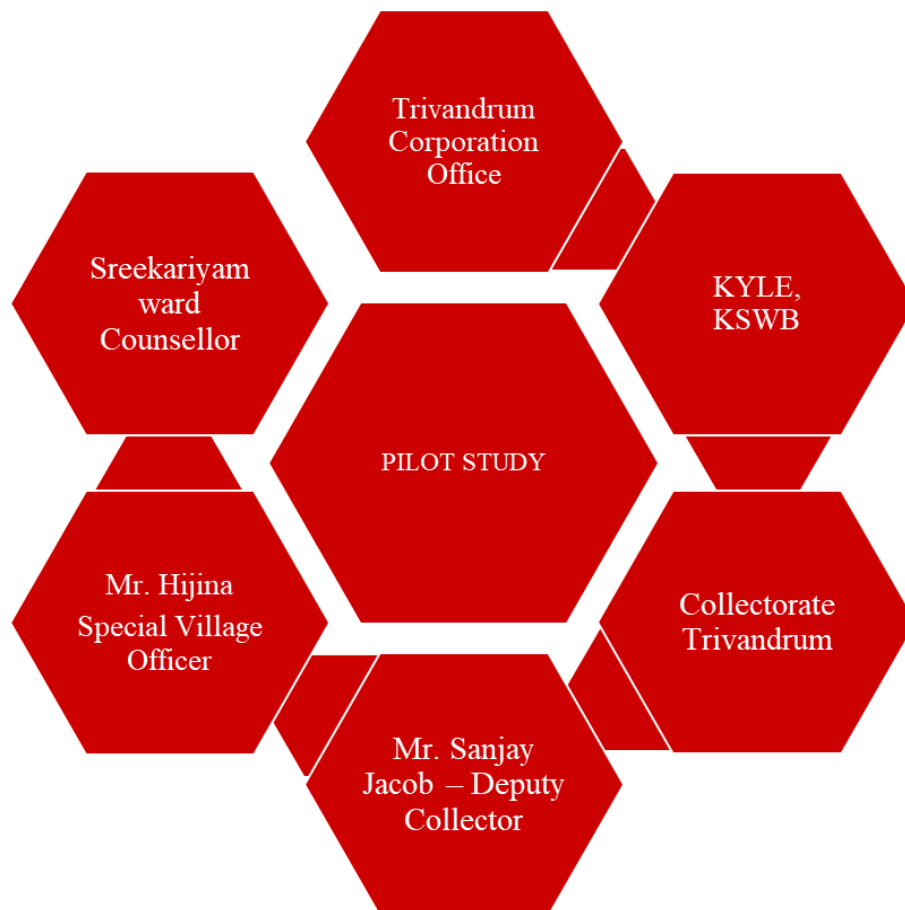
- **3.4.2 Operational Definition**

In the context of this study, development-induced displacement is operationally defined as the forced displacement of unorganized workers, individuals and various establishments in Sreekariyam, Trivandrum, due to the acquisition of land for the construction of a flyover. These establishments may include small shops, market vendors, street vendors, informal businesses, and other commercial or entrepreneurial ventures. The displacement involves the mandatory relocation of these workers and individuals, leading to the disruption of their businesses, and income sources, and potentially affecting their socioeconomic well-being.

### **3.5 PILOT STUDY**

In the pilot study conducted, the researcher aimed to evaluate the feasibility, time, cost, adverse events, and effect size of the research project on development-induced displacement in Sreekariyam, Trivandrum. The purpose of this preliminary study was to assess the practicality and viability of the research before conducting a full-scale investigation.

As part of the pilot study conducted in Sreekariyam, Trivandrum, the researcher engaged with various individuals and institutions. This included meetings with the Sreekariyam ward counsellor, representatives from KYLE (Kerala Labour and Employment) and KSWB (Kerala State Welfare Board), and officials at the Collectorate Trivandrum. The researcher also interviewed Mr. Hijina, a Special Village Officer, and Mr. Sanjay Jacob, a Deputy Collector. These interactions provided valuable insights into the local perspective, labor laws, social security measures, and government initiatives related to development-induced displacement in the area.



*Figure 7 Information Sources of Pilot Study*

During the pilot study, the researcher examined various factors such as the availability of resources, time constraints, financial implications, potential risks or adverse events, and the expected impact or effect size of the study. This evaluation helped the researcher to determine the feasibility of the research project and make any necessary modifications to improve the study design.

### **3.6 RESEARCH SITE**

The study was carried out at Sreekariyam, a rapidly developing region in the Trivandrum district of Kerala, India, which serves as the research site for investigating the impact of the construction of a flyover on unorganized workers' lives and livelihoods.

### **3.7 DESCRIPTION OF RESEARCH SITE AND PARTICIPANTS**

#### **3.7.1 Description of the Research Site**

The research site for this study is Sreekariyam, a major urban centre located in Trivandrum, the capital city of Kerala, India. Sreekariyam is situated approximately 11 kilometres away from Thiruvananthapuram Central Railway Station and is known for its bustling market and commercial activities. The area experiences heavy traffic congestion during peak hours, highlighting the need for infrastructure development to alleviate transportation challenges.

#### **3.7.2 Participants**

The participants in this study consist of unorganized workers directly affected by the proposed construction of a flyover in Sreekariyam.

### **3.8 SAMPLE STRATEGY**

A non-probability, purposive sampling method was used to select the sample for the study. The participants have been chosen to participate in individual face-to-face guided interview schedules. Participants for the study have been selected according to a set of specific criteria.

### **3.9 INCLUSION CRITERIA**

- Unorganized workers with a minimum work tenure of 10 years in Sreekariyam.
- Current unorganized workers in Sreekariyam.
- Unorganized workers working in the area affected by the development-induced displacement.

### **3.10 EXCLUSION CRITERIA**

- Unorganized workers from different states or regions.
- Commercial establishment owners.
- Unorganized workers not registered with the labour union.
- Unorganized workers unaffected by the development-induced displacement.

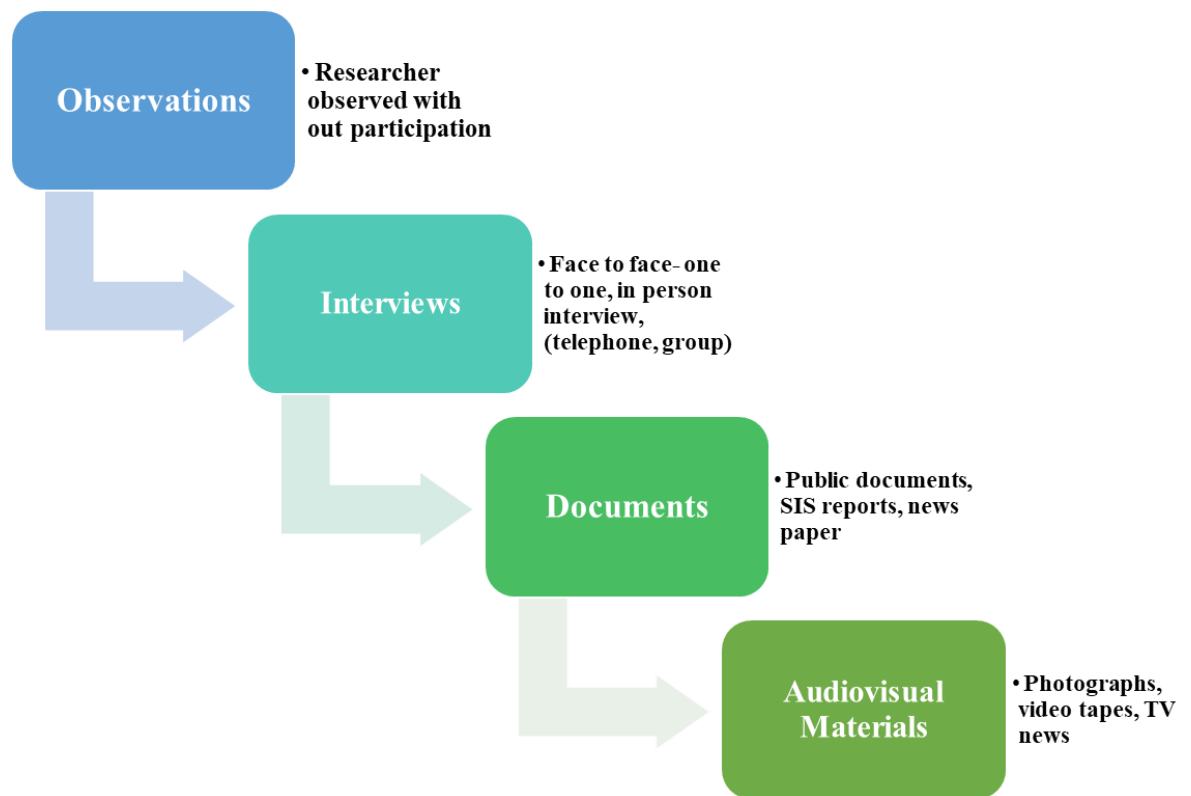
### **3.11 SAMPLE SIZE**

For the present study, a total sample of 5 unorganized workers in Sreekariyam, who were satisfying the exclusion and inclusion criteria were selected.

### **3.12 DATA COLLECTION**

**Data Collection** The researcher collected data from five unorganized workers representing the five most affected types of unorganized workers in Sreekariyam, Trivandrum, Kerala. The researcher personally visited each worker and conducted face-to-face interviews. Each interview lasted for an average of one and a half to two hours, spread over 4 to 5 sessions on different days. Additionally, the researcher observed the development-induced displacement, relocation, and demolition activities over a period of several months, dedicating a total of 26 days to collecting primary data. The interviews conducted in Malayalam were later transcribed into English for analysis and interpretation.

### 3.13 SOURCE OF DATA



*Figure 8 Sources for data for research*

### 3.14 PRE – TEST

As part of the research process, the researcher conducted a pre-test to ensure the effectiveness and appropriateness of the interview schedule. The pre-test involved three participants who were selected based on their relevance to the study. The guided interview schedule, which was carefully prepared by the researcher, served as a structured framework for conducting the interviews.

During the pre-test, the researcher interviewed the three participants individually, following the guided interview schedule. The purpose of the pre-test was to assess the clarity and comprehensiveness of the interview questions, as well as to identify any potential issues or areas for improvement. The participants' responses were carefully recorded and analyzed to determine the relevance and effectiveness of the interview schedule.

### **3.15 DATA ANALYSIS**

In qualitative research, the data collected through in-depth interviews undergoes a thorough process of analysis with the primary objective of gaining an understanding of the research concerns from the perspective of the participants. The qualitative case studies were analyzed using a thematic analysis approach. The data analysis process involved exploring various lines of inquiry to generate concepts, identify patterns within the emerging concepts, understand the emergence of these concepts, and provide explanations for their relevance. The analysis was guided by the research questions that guided the study. These research questions served as a framework for organizing and interpreting the collected data. They are:

- What is development according to the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam?
- What social challenges are faced by the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam regarding the land acquisition for flyover construction?
- What are the economic challenges faced by the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam in reference to the land acquisition for flyover construction?
- What are the health challenges faced by the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam in reference to the land acquisition for flyover construction?
- What are the coping mechanisms employed by unorganized workers to mitigate the adverse effects of land acquisition?

### **3.16 ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Ethics in research refer to the norms or guidelines that help researchers distinguish between acceptable and unacceptable practices during the research process. Prior permission was obtained from the Head of the Department of Social Work to conduct the data collection. Verbal consent was obtained from all the participants before conducting the interviews. They were informed about the purpose of the study and assured that their responses would be kept confidential and used only for the purposes of this study. Participant identities have been kept anonymous, and only relevant details necessary for the study have been utilized. Participants were also informed of their right to withdraw from the research at any time.

## **CHAPTER 4 - CASE DESCRIPTION**

## **4.1 SOCIO- DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**

1. **Participant 1** - Mr F, a 66-year-old male, is a Christian clay pot vendor with 13 years of experience. He resides within a 5-kilometer radius and operates his business in Sreekariyam Market. His monthly income is approximately 6,000.
2. **Participant 2**- Mr U, a 56-year-old Hindu male, works as a saloon worker. With 13 years of experience, he operates his business in Sreekariyam-Chakkalamuk, located within a 5-kilometer radius. His monthly income is 12,000.
3. **Participant 3**- Mrs S, a 65-year-old Muslim female, is a fruit vendor with 35 years of experience. She operates her business in Sreekariyam, within a 5-kilometer radius. Her monthly income is 7,000.
4. **Participant 4**- Mrs J, a 69-year-old Christian female, sells fish and has 37 years of experience. Her business is located in Sreekariyam, within a 20-kilometer radius. Her monthly income is 12,000.
5. **Participant 5**- Mrs M, a 51-year-old Hindu female, works as a vegetable vendor. With 31 years of experience, she operates her business in Sreekariyam within a 5-kilometer radius. Her monthly income is 8,000.

## **4.2 CASE PRESENTATION**

### **4.2.1 PARTICIPANT- ONE**

Mr F was born in the year 1957 in Trivandrum district. Mr F is a 66-year-old married male who belongs to an economically weaker section. He is Christian and currently working as a clay pot seller in the Sreekariyam market. His family consist of his wife (59) and children; a daughter (25) and Son (29). He is the elder of his two siblings and currently, They are staying separately in a sheet-roof house near the Sreekariyam market. He stayed with his younger brother a few years back but due to family conflicts, he shifted to another house with his family. Mr F and his family were deeply rooted in religious activities and his family members were the office bearers of various catholic



associations. Mr F was selling vegetables in Sreekariyam years before but now he started selling clay pots in the same place.

*"I was selling vegetables in the Sreekariyam market for the past 13 years, and after starting the demolishing process the business suddenly reduced. Vegetables spoil in two or three days, if there are no customers that's it end of the business. There weren't any options what can we do if no one comes to the market? This was the time when my daughter got sick, pure helplessness. The only thing I could do was pray to Jesus. After some time how I started selling clay pots, pots won't decay."*

Now Mr F is selling clay pots which are manufactured in the Palakkad district of Kerala. These pots are made of ground clay and traditional heating Furnas. He also sells clay pots which can be used in an induction cooker. He opens his shop at 8 am every day, and he brings lunch from his home but someday he has food from the neighbouring hotels and he closes his shop at 10 pm every day. Mr F said that he opens his shop every day because he has nothing else to do in his house. His house is just one kilometre away from the shop he leaves his house at 7 every day, this is his routine now.

*"It is difficult to remain at home, if I am here I can talk to many people, and there will be always some interaction. "*

Mr F is very much proud of his previous connections with various priests of the catholic community, he worked for the welfare of the people during his period of office bearing in various organizations under the catholic church. He also led various social action movements happened in Pozhiyoor for the prevention of alcohol use in that area.

Mr F's wife is a housewife she is diabetic and he has difficulty walking long distances and carrying weight. Mr F's family was in catholic belief but 6 years before his wife converted to the protestant community. Mr F said that the conversion of his wife made him sad. As he was the office bearer of the church people started questioning his wife's conversion in public. After these incidents, he moved out of his parish. From that day he lost his peace in his family, and conversion regarding this opened gate for quarrels

every day. Mr F's daughter is a nursing graduate currently working in Cosmo Hospital and his son is an Aviation graduate currently jobless Mr F is very much disturbed about his son's behaviour and social connections. Mr F lives in a small house which is not sufficient for a four-member family, he is very much concerned about it.

Mr F underwent a surgery for urinary bladder-related condition 2 years back. At present, he is waiting for an appendicitis surgery but he has no money for taking surgery. He said that even though there are government hospitals when we seek treatment we need some cash in hand. His daughter underwent surgery for Gastrointestinal (GI) tuberculosis (TB) 8 months back. Mr F said that this is caused because of the tedious training she underwent during the bond period of her nursing education. Mr F's family history suggests that there is a chance for predisposing factors as Mr F's mother was diagnosed with Lung Tuberculosis. Mr F's son is bedridden now as his ligaments are injured. For receiving treatment Mr F approaches the government hospital in Pangapara. Mr F is have impaired vision and he has stomach ache caused by appendicitis.

*“My vision is blurred now, I used to read the bible while sitting in the shop but nowadays I couldn't read, I have checked my diabetics in years”*

The mention of his blurred vision raises concerns about his ability to carry out daily activities and operate his business effectively.

Mr F belongs to the economically weaker section and his income varies day today, he said that he doesn't get a fixed amount daily it varies from time to time and there are days in which he doesn't even sell any of his products. His daughter started earning a few months before and it is a relief for Mr F. He is very much worried about his son's unemployment and unproductive behaviours. Mr F spends all his money on his children's education and running his family. Unexpected hospital emergency for his family members formed a debt in his family. His son's ligament fracture also cost Mr F a huge amount of money. He is postponing his appetite surgery because of his financial crisis.

The interconnectedness and economic impact of the Sreekariyam market on the local community is very important.

*“The business in Sreekariyam was based on the market, people visit the market for purchasing daily essentials. This traffic (flow of people) to the market has contributed to the business in the neighbouring commercial establishments and other unorganized workers. After the purchase, most of the customers depended on local transportation facilities like auto and local buses, tea shops, hotels, textile shops, mechanic shops, bakeries, cool bars, mobile phone repair and recharge shops, and even ice cream sellers benefited from the existence of this market”*

The market serves as a hub where people come to purchase their daily essentials, creating a consistent flow of customers. This traffic of people not only supports the businesses within the market but also extends its benefits to neighbouring commercial establishments and unorganized workers. The presence of the market generates a ripple effect, benefiting various sectors and businesses in the vicinity. Local transportation facilities such as autos and buses play a crucial role in facilitating the movement of customers to and from the market. These transportation services provide convenience and accessibility, ensuring that people can reach the market easily.

The economic activity generated by the market extends beyond the market itself, contributing to the overall growth and sustenance of the local economy. The market acts as a catalyst for economic opportunities and livelihoods in the area.

*“The development in Sreekariyam has resulted in the destruction of the market, after a few more months existing shops will be relocated.”*

*“I spend my entire life in this market, where can I go now?”*

The demolition and relocation signify a significant change in the physical landscape and dynamics of the market. The destruction of the existing market space and the need

to relocate introduce a level of uncertainty for Mr F. The market may hold sentimental value, representing a place where they have built connections, conducted their livelihoods, and created a sense of identity. The question of "Where can I go now?" expresses Mr F's genuine concern and uncertainty about their future prospects.

*"My daughter is 25 years old now her peers have already married and a few of them migrated to another county as the nursing profession has high demand in abroad countries. I saved nothing for my daughter's marriage no money no assets nothing. I am praying to Jesus every day. In the midst of all these things business is dull and I cannot hope anything from this"*

Mr F worries about his daughter's future and the pressures they face due to financial limitations.

*"If I was young, I could have considered doing another job or shifting my shop to a different place. I spend my whole life in this market, where can I go now?"*

Mr F expresses a sense of helplessness, wondering where he can go now that his established market is undergoing changes. His age is a determining factor in their perceived lack of options, as he believes that his ability to adapt and explore alternative paths is limited.

*"I am still frightened about the incident that happened last week. As part of the demolition the authority removed the roof sheet of the market, it will be excessively hot during day time as there is no shade inside the market as the roof is removed. Due to the excess heat of a fish vendor, she fainted and she is no more now. She was in this market for more than 30 years and she is more than 70 years old."*

This incident highlights the severe consequences that can arise from the lack of proper planning and consideration for the well-being of those affected by the demolition. The incident not only brings sorrow and grief to the vendor's family and the market

community but also raises concerns about the safety and welfare of others who continue to operate in the market during the demolition process. It also highlights the need to prioritize the well-being of individuals affected by such developments.

*“In this market, there were many sellers earlier but now there are only very less people, after the complete demolition of the market there won't be anyone here everyone will be scattered. My business is dependent on the customers who approach the market for purchasing fish, vegetables, fruits and other daily requirements. If people stop coming to the market I won't get any business.”*

Shifting market dynamics caused by the ongoing demolition in Sreekariyam have led to a decrease in the number of sellers, causing concern for the individual whose business depends on the customers visiting the market for their daily requirements.

*“As the market is not functional as earlier, there isn't much monitoring and there won't be any sellers or people during the night, earlier it wasn't like that it was crowded always. As this place is not much active now there are few youngsters, they will come by evening and they sell cannabis, mostly migrant labours are their customers. As I am in this market for many years, I will identify activities like this quickly. We informed the police about this but it's hard to track them, they won't be carrying cannabis with them, they will keep it in some other place, after receiving money from the customers who distribute the cannabis.”*

Ongoing demolition and reduced functionality of the market have resulted in a decline in monitoring and the presence of sellers and customers during nighttime hours. This creates an environment conducive to illicit activities, including the sale of cannabis by young individuals, with migrant labourers being their target customers.

*“I don't think this development will bring any improvement in business, because, after the completion of the project, the bus stands will be far away from the current positions. Do you think that people will walk that far to purchase, I don't think. I am saying this because I know the customers, they are coming here for a reason, after the purchase*

*they can reach the bus stop in a few feet walk, but after the development, things won't be the same. But this development project will change the current traffic problem in Sreekariyam, as you can see in Sreekariyam the traffic is free."*

Mr F's perception reflects his concern about the potential negative consequences of the development initiatives on their business. He believes that the proposed changes, specifically the relocation of bus stands, may deter customers from visiting the market.

*"I haven't received any compensation, there are some disagreements between the development authority and the corporation that's why the demolition is extended."*

*"There weren't any particular classes for educating us about the development that's happening in Sreekariyam. But we got an idea about the project by mutual interaction, But in my case, as I am involved in the association I got an idea earlier."*

Mr F hasn't received any education sessions for understanding the development process in Sreekariyam. Mr F also said about his association works which help him to update about the development process.

*"The bridge construction in Sreekariyam will affect each and every persons who are finding livelihood from this place because, since the start of the demolition, there is a rapid decrease in the number of people coming to Sreekariyam for different activities. Everyone should understand that before this situation if a person comes to Sreekariyam he can fulfil all his requirements because this market provided all kinds of resources, fresh fish, chicken, vegetables, clothes, bags, knives, everything. From salt to camphor, you will be able to meet all your requirement if you visited the market for one year. The situation now is not in our hands, what can we do? imagine from the perspective of a customer, why should they opt for Sreekariyam for their shopping now, they won't be able to meet their requirements now because the demolition and dislocation resulted in the scattering of the people here many discontinued from this field, but people like me in this age what should we do..?"*

The overall effect of development-induced displacement in Sreekariyam has been the disruption of established economic activities and the fragmentation of the local community. Many people who were previously involved in this market have discontinued their businesses or sought alternative livelihoods.

#### 4.2.2 PARTICIPANT- TWO

The Second case study is about Mr. U, a 56-year-old individual, he is a Hindu and currently runs a saloon. His family consist of his wife (50), mother (89), father (96) and a married daughter. He has not much contact with his other relatives and he lives a private life. He runs a saloon in Sreekariyam continuously for the past 13 years. During his adulthood period, he was in Gulf, he did all kinds of work there and finally came back to his hometown after a long time.

He has experienced significant changes in his life and career. He spent 18 years working in the Gulf before returning to Sreekariyam 15 years ago.

During his 18 years in the Gulf, Mr. U experienced a range of challenges One significant aspect of his time in the Gulf was the congested living conditions. Many workers in the region often reside in labour camps or shared accommodations, where space is limited and privacy is scarce. Mr. U likely encountered crowded living arrangements, with limited personal space. The extremely hot climate of the Gulf region also posed a significant challenge, long hours of work were common in the Gulf. Mr U has worked in sectors that required labour-intensive tasks. Mr U's decision to work in the Gulf was driven by his commitment to supporting his family there were a lot of debts.

Upon his return, he established a salon in Sreekariyam, which he has owned for the past 13 years. The salon employs three staff members and has likely been a source of income and livelihood for Mr U before the displacement.

Mr U's family includes his elderly parents, with his father being 96 years old and his mother 80 years old. He is also married and has a daughter who is now married and has a child of her own. His daughter works as a lab assistant. It is evident that Mr U has a sense of responsibility towards his family, as he mentions the ages of his parents and the occupation and marital status of his daughter.



Mr U had no choice but to vacate the building where his salon was located previously next to the Sreekariyam Muslim Juma Masjid. The building was subsequently demolished, forcing him to find an alternative location for his business. He relocated to a place approximately 1 kilometre away from the previous one, near Chavadimukk. This displacement caused him to face additional challenges and expenses associated with moving his salon to a new location.

Mr U expresses concern about his ability to continue working in the hair styling profession for a long time. Although he currently enjoys good health, he anticipates that his physical condition may deteriorate in a couple of years, ultimately preventing him from working. He believes that hairdressing is a profession that requires starting at a young age and concluding before reaching old age. This suggests that he may be aware of the physical demands and limitations associated with his profession, acknowledging that age could hinder his ability to perform the job effectively.

Mr U paid a substantial advance of 2 lakhs and is now paying a monthly rent of 10,000 for the new shop. In comparison, the rent for the old building was only 6,000. This significant increase in rent further contributes to the additional expenses incurred as a result of the relocation.

*“The authorities have said that there will be a consideration for the displaced unorganized workers after the completion of the construction in Sreekariyam. My shop was next to the Sreekariyam Muslim Juma Masjith, after this process completes I will get a preference for getting the same space for my saloon. I am 56 years old now, authorities say that this construction process takes up to 5 years. I don't think that I will be able to work as a barber in my 60s. This occupation has many peculiarities, it is a competitive field, and there are many saloons out there for replacing the small-scale saloons. A barber should start his career as a youngster and he should end it before getting old. Also, I don't think this construction finishes in 5 years, since it is a state government project it will take more time. After the completion of the project the building owners will increase the rent and security for the building as well, government can do nothing as the property ownership is private.”*

Mr U expressed his concern about this process, primarily due to his age. At 56 years old, he believes that by the time the construction is completed (estimated to be a 5-year timeframe), he will be in his 60s and may not be physically capable of continuing his work as a barber. He highlights the competitive nature of the profession and the need for barbers to start their careers at a young age and retire before getting old.

Mr U doubts that the construction will be completed within the projected timeline of 5 years, especially considering it is a state government project. This implies his distrust of delays and potential extensions to the construction period, further prolonging the uncertainty he faces.

These concerns raised by Mr. U highlight the complex challenges faced by individuals like him who are affected by development-induced displacement. The uncertain timeline, the impact on his livelihood, the competitive nature of his profession, and the potential increase in expenses all contribute to his worries about the future of his salon business.

*“There is an important problem in Sreekariyam now, there were many commercial establishments in Sreekariyam. Most of them were established in rented properties. As part of the displacement package, the building and property owners got compensation. Then the demolition of the buildings happened, some buildings were partially demolished completely and some partially. Before the start of the demolition the people who rented the building vacated, the same thing happened to me as well, I had no other option, the situation was similar to everyone. Among them most of them lost their livelihood, some relocated, some migrated to other districts, and some started different jobs. After one month the building owners reconstructed the building and they rented the building again with a change, the deposit for the building started from 10 lakhs and the rent was tripled. The facilities in a shop don't give us customers, the location does. What can I do I am 56 years old now, I worked all of my life here and in the Gulf, I am a breadwinner of my family, I did all my responsibilities, my daughter's marriage was perfect, and I am still taking care of my parents. I don't have 10 lakh rupees for giving security and I won't be able to pay such huge rent.”*

After the demolition, the building owners reconstructed the buildings and rented them out again. However, there were significant changes in the rental market. The deposit required for renting the buildings increased to 10 lakh rupees, and the rent itself was tripled. This sudden escalation in costs poses a major obstacle for individuals like Mr U, who may not have the financial means to meet such demands. Mr U emphasizes the importance of location for a business's success. He recognizes that the facilities and services offered in a shop alone may not attract customers; a strategic location plays a crucial role. Mr U shares his personal circumstances, being 56 years old and having fulfilled his responsibilities as the breadwinner of his family. He mentions his daughter's successful marriage and his ongoing care for his elderly parents. Given his age and family obligations, it becomes even more challenging for him to adapt to the changes and find a viable solution. Mr U shares his personal circumstances, being 56 years old and having fulfilled his responsibilities as the breadwinner of his family. He mentions his daughter's successful marriage and his ongoing care for his elderly parents. Given his age and family obligations, it becomes even more challenging for him to adapt to the changes and find a viable solution.

*“Among my customers there are children below the age of 14, parents bring them for dressing hair after the relocation there was a significant reduction among that category of customers because it is difficult for the parents to bring children here, mostly mothers since my new shop is bit away from the city they won't come, we can complain them for them its not convenient. Here I have no parking space, it will be difficult for the customer to walk till here after finding a suitable location for parking their vehicle. Especially for the customers from the Cheruvikal side, it is more difficult, I lost most of the regular customers since I relocated only very few of them visit now”*

The new shop is situated farther away from the city making it challenging for parents, especially mothers, to bring their children for hairdressing. Another issue is the absence of parking facilities near the new shop. Customers who drive to the salon face difficulties in finding suitable parking spots for their vehicles. This inconvenience adds an extra layer of hassle and discourages potential customers from receiving service from Mr U. Customers residing in the Cheruvikal area face even greater challenges in reaching the new location. The distance and lack of accessibility make it more

inconvenient for them to visit the shop, resulting in the loss of most of these regular customers.

It is important that the skill-based workers deeply depended on the regular customers.

*“In this new shop, the monthly rent is 10,000 in the previous building it was only 6,000. I got 2,00000 as compensation I paid the same amount as the deposit for this building.”*

*After the construction of the bridge there will be pillars which will divide the road into two so there is a chance of having limited customers but I really want the old location back but if they are asking for rent like this I can't afford it.*

Gaining credibility in the saloon profession is a long-term process, Mr U earned the trust of customers with the long-term consistent service he provided. After the relocation, only 30 per cent of the regular customers came back. Since the previous shop was in the middle of the city there was a wide range of customers approached Mr U for receiving the service. The nature of customers was heterogeneous and composite in nature. School children, college students, professionals, and unorganized workers (auto drivers, headload workers, shop keepers etc). Most of the shops are displaced from Sreekariyam, this also caused a significant loss of customers. After shifting Mr U's shop to Chavadimuk the loss of customers doubled. There are many reasons for it existence of established saloons in the area, such as loss of regular customers, lack of parking space, location of the shop away from the city etc are few reasons for this situation.

### 4.2.3 PARTICIPANT—THREE

Mrs S was born in the year 1958 in Sreekariyam. Mrs S is a 65-year-old married woman who belongs to an economically weaker section. She is a Muslim and currently working as a fruit vendor in Sreekariyam. Her close relatives passed away and the rest of them are not in Trivandrum. Her family consist of her husband is 60 years old and he is jobless he helps Mrs S in the fruit vending. She has three children 2 daughters 38 and 36 years old they are married and they live with their husbands and currently they are not in touch. She has a son who is 40 years old married daily wage worker who lives with his wife and children. She is an unorganized worker in Sreekariyam for the past 35 years.

There were many fruit vendors in the Sreekariyam market before the displacement, now it has been reduced to a few. The displacement hasn't been completed yet. Mrs S has been working in the Sreekariyam for the past 35 years, she also receives help from her husband, who is in his 60s for running the shop.

*“My shop was inside the market one year, but there aren't many people coming inside the market now, nobody comes just for purchasing fruits, for survival, I shifted my shop outside the market”*

Mrs S's fruit vending shop was inside the market for the past 27 years, there were a lot of people earlier who approached for receiving service back then, but now there is a significant reduction in the number of customers who approach Sreekariyam market for receiving various services. If there was a group of customers who sell the same kind of products there was a possibility of finding customers. Most of the other fruit vendors discontinued doing business in the Sreekariyam market. But Mrs S was doing trading in the Sreekariyam market for the past 35 years and she is 65 years old, she also lives near the market due to so many reasons she couldn't find any alternate livelihood, so she moved out of the market and traded fruits next to the road.

*“I am born and bought up in Sreekariyam”*

Deep-rooted connection and attachment that Mrs S and her husband have to their hometown. It signifies their long-standing association with the place where they were born, raised, and have spent their entire lives. A long-standing presence in Sreekariyam suggests a deep understanding of the local dynamics, including customer preferences, market conditions, and interpersonal relationships. Their extensive experience in the area likely contributed to the success and sustainability of their fruit vending business over the years.

*“I had 2 cent land and house in the interior of Sreekariyam, which I gave to my daughters for their marriage”*

Mrs S has 2 daughters both of them got married and they have children, they live far from Sreekariyam. For the purpose of their marriage, Mrs S gave their property to them. At present she has no savings or any assets, she lives in a rented house and her livelihood is in threat. Cultural and familial dynamics within Sreekariyam. It reflects the societal expectations placed on parents, particularly mothers, to provide for their children's future. Mrs S's action aligns with the values of filial duty and parental responsibility that are deeply ingrained in many cultures.

*“I used to have a very good relationship with the people who traded fruits here previously, I taught them the business, they were always available and I shared my problems with them”*

Mrs S had a very good relationship with the displaced fruit vendors. On the basis of seniority, Mrs S is senior among them and she guided them while starting trading fruits in the Sreekariyam market. The displaced fruit vendors are younger than Mrs S and they also had the financial capacity to rent shops and relocate to another place.

The importance of social connections and mutual support within the context of Mrs S's fruit vending business. Mrs S emphasizes the positive relationships she had with her fellow fruit vendors in the past. These relationships were built on trust, cooperation, and a sense of community.

The existence of such relationships suggests a culture of connection and interdependence among the vendors. They were always available to assist one another, possibly sharing resources, advice, and strategies for improving their businesses. The open communication and problem-sharing mentioned by Mrs S indicate a level of trust and comfort within the group, where individuals could seek advice or solace during challenging times. These social connections were not only beneficial for Mrs S's business but also played a crucial role in her overall well-being. The support and understanding of her fellow vendors provided a sense of belonging and emotional support. By sharing her problems with them, Mrs S could alleviate some of the burdens she faced and gain insights or suggestions from others who understood her circumstances.

*“If any road accident happens here, the police will come and forcefully shut our shop”*

This is one problem faced by Mrs S now, Sreekariyam roads are congested and prone to accidents, if any accident happens near Mrs S's shop the police will ask them to close their shop. For Mrs S, this presents a significant challenge. Her fruit vending business is her primary source of income, and any interruption or closure can have adverse financial implications.

*“We are helpless (gathy ellathavar) so we open again”*

Mrs S has no other option other than vending fruits and for getting customers she needs to open her shop in the city

*“In this line, there were three other fruit vendors, but they left this place. One of them went to another place and the other person rented a shutter room for their business. Where can we go at this age when we don't have the money to rent a shop? Now we are just alone”*

According to Mrs S, there used to be three other fruit vendors in the same line of business, but they have all left the place. One vendor relocated to another area, while another resorted to renting a shuttered room for their business. However, Mrs S and her husband, being at an older age and lacking the financial means to rent a shop or explore alternative locations, find themselves in a difficult situation.

The sense of isolation experienced by Mrs S and her husband. With the departure of other fruit vendors, they feel alone in their struggle to sustain their business. The absence of their fellow vendors not only affects their social interactions but also diminishes the support system they once had within their community. This loss of companionship and mutual assistance can further exacerbate the challenges they face.

The Situation of Mrs S is hard as the people who traded along with her are no more in the Sreekariyam market. They had group sentiments and mutual corporation between them which helped their business and overall well being

*“My son is not educated and he is a daily wage worker, he has his own family and expenses, and there is no one to take care of me and my husband if we won't find our daily bread”*

Mrs S and her husband on their fruit vending business as their primary source of income. Without steady earnings from their business, they may face challenges in meeting their basic needs, including food, shelter, healthcare, and other daily expenses. Absence of a support system or caregivers who can take care of Mrs S and her husband in their older age.

*“I and my husband have many health problems, both of us are diabetic and we have high blood pressure. I have varicose vein and my husband's disc is dislocated, he also has severe solder pain”*



The mention of diabetes and high blood pressure indicates chronic health conditions that require ongoing management and medical care. The statement also draws attention to specific health issues faced by Mrs S and her husband. Mrs S mentions having varicose veins, which is a condition characterized by enlarged and twisted veins, typically in the legs. (After started fruit vending outside the market she has no provision to sit she always stands under the sun)

Mrs S's husband is described as having a dislocated disc and severe shoulder pain. These musculoskeletal issues can severely impact his mobility, causing pain and limited movement.

Mrs S's husband has disc problem for the past 14 years and now it is becoming severe, the condition of the shoulder pain is similar. Mrs S has a varicose vein, it is visible that the veins are projected in her legs she said that it is severe and it needs quick medical treatment. The presence of multiple health problems in both individuals underscores the physical limitations and challenges they face in their daily lives.

*“I don't know what to do if we were forced to stop selling fruits here it is our livelihood”*

Deep concern and uncertainty were expressed by Mrs S regarding the potential cessation of her fruit vending business. She states that if she and her husband are forced to stop selling fruits in their current location, they are unsure about what they would do as it directly impacts their livelihood. For Mrs S, fruit vending is not just a job but a means of survival and sustenance for herself and her husband. It represents their primary source of income, allowing them to meet their daily needs and cover expenses such as food, shelter, and healthcare.

#### 4.2.4 PARTICIPANT—FOUR

Mrs. J, born in 1954 in Trivandrum district, is a 69-year-old woman belonging to an economically weaker section. She identifies as Christian and currently works as a fish vendor in the Sreekariyam market. Her immediate family consists of her husband, who is 74 years old, and her two daughters, aged 41 and 39. Coming from a background of limited financial means, Mrs. J had to start working at a young age and did not have the opportunity to acquire formal schooling. Despite these challenges, she has been engaged in fish vending at the Sreekariyam market for the past 37 years. Mrs. J's occupation as a fish vendor holds significant importance in her life. It is her primary source of income and sustains her family's livelihood. However, her monthly earnings from fish vending only amount to 12,000 rupees, which indicates that she faces economic constraints and struggles to make ends meet. This financial limitation may impact various aspects of her life, including access to healthcare, education, and a comfortable standard of living.

Delving into Mrs. J's socioeconomic background can provide valuable insights into her life trajectory. Exploring her family background, upbringing, and the broader socioeconomic factors that have influenced her current situation can shed light on the challenges and opportunities she has encountered throughout her life.

*"25 years before we were selling fish in the Alumood area when the bus stand came there we were relocated to the Sreekariyam market area. We said that time that we need to stay together for fish vending that is the reason we got this place."*

Mrs. J shared that 25 years ago, her family used to sell fish in the Alumood area. However, when a bus stand was established in that area, they were relocated to the Sreekariyam market. Mrs. J explained that during that time, they expressed the need to stay together as a family for fish vending, and as a result, they were granted a place in the Sreekariyam market. This information adds an important historical context to Mrs. J's occupation as a fish vendor. The relocation from Alumood to the Sreekariyam market was driven by the need to adapt to changing circumstances and retain their livelihood. The establishment of the bus stand likely affected the business dynamics in

the Alummoood area, prompting the move to a new location where they could continue their fish vending activities. The decision to stay together as a family for fish vending demonstrates the significance of familial support and unity in their occupation. By securing a place in the Sreekariyam market, they ensured that they could continue their business while remaining in close proximity to one another. This indicates the importance they placed on maintaining their family unit and sustaining their economic activities as a collective.

*"There should be decency for self-employment, otherwise, they should give us at least a sweeping job. They won't give us any job and they won't let us do what we did for decades. How it will work?"*

Mrs. J expressed a sentiment regarding the need for decency and recognition for self-employment. She emphasized that if they are not provided with self-employment opportunities, they should at least be given alternative job options, such as sweeping jobs. However, according to Mrs. J, it seems that neither employment opportunities nor the ability to continue their traditional occupation are being provided to them.

Mrs. J's statement reflects her frustration and concern about the challenges faced by self-employed individuals like herself. She questions how the situation can work if they are not given the opportunity to engage in the occupation they have been practising for decades.

*"If they do like this where would the poor like us go?"*

Mrs. J expresses deep concern about the implications of the current situation, questioning where individuals from economically disadvantaged backgrounds like herself would go if they continue to face such challenges. Her statement reflects the reality faced by many individuals living in poverty or with limited resources who rely on self-employment for their livelihoods. Mrs. J's concern highlights the vulnerability and limited options available to individuals in similar circumstances. It raises important

questions about the broader social and economic support systems that are necessary to uplift and empower those living in poverty.

*"During the time of elections, everyone will come in Infront of us by folding their hands, once the election is over, we can't find them."*

Mrs. J expresses a common sentiment shared by many individuals in economically disadvantaged communities during election periods. She mentions that during elections, politicians and officials often come forward, showing respect and supplication, seeking the support and votes of people like herself. However, once the election is over and the politicians are elected into power, they become difficult to find or reach when the community needs their assistance. Mrs. J's statement sheds light on the challenges faced by marginalized communities in engaging with political representatives. It implies a lack of sustained support and attention from politicians after elections, leading to a sense of disillusionment and frustration among individuals like Mrs. J.

*"Fishing and selling fish is our Kulathozil"*

Mrs. J expresses the deep-rooted significance of fishing and selling fish in her life by stating that it is their "Kulathozil." The term "Kulathozil" refers to an occupation or vocation that is inherent to one's family or community, passed down through generations, and deeply intertwined with their identity and way of life. Mrs. J's statement emphasizes the cultural and historical importance of fishing and fish vending within her family and community. It suggests that this occupation holds a profound meaning beyond just being a means of livelihood. It represents their heritage, traditions, and values associated with their way of life.

the challenges faced by individuals like Mrs. J when their traditional occupation is threatened or undermined. It highlights the potential loss of cultural heritage and the impacts on the community's sense of belonging and continuity.

*"Mrs J said that if she is not selling fish for one day, the situation in her family will get complicated. All the expenses of their family are met by selling fish, including both her daughter's marriage. Sometimes we will starve times we have income it's stable, It is the situation of all the fish vendors in Sreekariyam said, Mrs. J."*

Mrs. J emphasizes the critical role that selling fish plays in her family's daily life and overall financial stability. She states that if she doesn't sell fish for even one day, the situation in her family becomes complicated. This highlights the direct dependence of her family's livelihood on the income generated from fish vending. Mrs. J explains that all the expenses of their family, including significant events like her daughters' marriages, are met through the income earned from selling fish. This underscores the importance of their occupation as the primary source of income and the key factor enabling them to sustain their household and meet essential needs. Mrs. J also points out the precarious nature of their situation. She mentions that while there are times when their income is stable and provides for their needs, there are also times when they face financial hardships and even struggle to afford basic necessities. This fluctuation in income reflects the inherent challenges faced by fish vendors, not only Mrs. J but also others in the Sreekariyam market.

*"I had a stroke before 2 years and her left hand is not fully functional now."*

Mrs. J had a stroke two years ago, which resulted in her left hand not being fully functional. This reveals a health challenge she has faced, which has impacted her physical abilities and potentially affected her daily life and work as a fish vendor.

"Now there are more than 85 fish vendors in Sreekariyam. We have a schedule among ourselves there are vendors who arrive early morning, afternoon and another group reach by night. Based on the availability of fish this routine varies. I come mostly during the morning but now I have to remain in the market till night for selling the fish, most of the days I am keeping the fish for dehydrating."

Mrs. J provides insights into the dynamics of fish vending in the Sreekariyam market, highlighting that there are now more than 85 fish vendors operating in the area. She explains that the vendors have established a schedule among themselves to manage their operations effectively. This schedule includes different groups of vendors arriving at different times of the day, depending on the availability of fish and market demand. Mrs. J mentions that she typically arrives at the market in the morning, which was her usual routine. However, she now finds herself having to stay in the market until nighttime to sell her fish. This change in routine may be due to various factors including the demolition of the market and surrounding areas and problem associated with that including limited parking space.

*"I will come by 8.30 am every day and I will work till 9.00 pm. Earlier I went early after selling all my fish but now it will take more time since the market is partially demolished and there are not many customers now, so I need to stay until dark for selling my fish"*

Mrs. J mentions her daily routine as a fish vendor, stating that she arrives at the market by 8:30 am and works until 9:00 pm. She explains that previously, she would leave early once she sold all her fish. However, due to recent changes in the market, which involve partial demolition and a decrease in the number of customers, she now needs to stay until it is dark to sell her fish. Challenges and adjustments Mrs. J has had to make in her work routine as a result of the changes in the market environment. The partial demolition of the market has likely affected footfall and customer traffic, resulting in reduced sales opportunities for the fish vendors.

*"My husband is blind now so he won't be able to go to sea or do any kind of work, I am the breadwinner of my family. Both of us have serious health concerns, I also have migraines, and when is exposed to sunlight my migraines become severe."*

She reveals that her husband is now blind, which prevents him from engaging in work, particularly going to the sea for fishing. This places the responsibility of being the breadwinner solely on Mrs. J's shoulders. Mrs. J further discloses that both she and her

husband have serious health concerns. She mentions that she suffers from migraines, which can become severe when exposed to sunlight. This health issue adds an additional layer of complexity to her daily life and works as a fish vendor.

*"She said that she got threatened by police when she was selling close to the road, and she shared her concern about reducing options for vending fish."*

Mrs. J recounts an incident where she faced a threat from the police while selling fish close to the road. Mrs. J's statement highlights the challenges and risks faced by fish vendors like herself when it comes to finding suitable locations for their vending activities. It suggests that the options for selling fish are becoming increasingly limited, potentially due to regulations, urban development, or changing market dynamics.

*"The only peaceful thing in my life is that my daughters come and visit me sometimes."*

Mrs. J reflects on the limited sources of peace in her life, mentioning that her daughters occasionally visit her, providing her solace and comfort amidst her challenges.

*"I have a small financial debt of 50,000, I am struggling to pay it back. I took that."*

Mrs. J shares her struggle with a financial debt of 50,000 rupees. This debt represents a significant burden, making it challenging for her to meet the repayment obligations. To cope with her financial situation, she resorted to selling her small auto rickshaw last year during the COVID-19 pandemic.

*"I had a small auto rikshaw, I sold it last year, during the time of COVID-19."*

*"My house is in Pallithura, and from there I will go to Marianad for buying fish wholesale. It will cost around 500 for the transportation of fish. I also need to buy ice which will cost around 200. Nowadays we won't get fish at a reasonable rate, it is*

*getting very much expensive. Every day I will be spending more than 1000 rupees after purchasing the fish. Today I bought an ayala fish for 1300 rupees but I only got 14 fish, the customers will be surprised."*

She mentions that she resides in Pallithura and travels to Marianad to purchase fish wholesale. The transportation cost for acquiring the fish from Marianad amounts to approximately 500 rupees. Additionally, Mrs. J needs to purchase ice for preserving the fish, which incurs an additional cost of around 200 rupees. Mrs. J expresses her concerns about the increasing prices of fish, emphasizing that fish is becoming very expensive. She mentions that she spends more than 1000 rupees daily on purchasing fish alone. This financial burden puts additional pressure on her business and the livelihood of her family.

*"After the shops around the market got demolished the number of customers coming to the market decreased."*

Mrs. J highlights the impact of the demolition of shops around the market, stating that the number of customers coming to the market has decreased as a result. This suggests that the presence of neighbouring shops played a crucial role in attracting customers to the market and supporting the businesses of fish vendors like Mrs. J. The demolition of the shops surrounding the market has disrupted the ecosystem and dynamics of the local economy. With fewer shops and businesses in the vicinity, there is likely a reduced flow of customers to the market, resulting in a decline in potential sales for fish vendors.

*"Before the demolition, they could have secured us by sifting us to another place. Why didn't they consider it? 20 cent land is enough for all of us for continuing our employment. Government lands suitable for us, but they won't consider us."*

Mrs. J expresses her frustration and disappointment, questioning why the authorities did not consider securing an alternative location for the fish vendors before the demolition took place. She suggests that a 20 cent land would have been sufficient to accommodate all the fish vendors and enable them to continue their employment.



*"I haven't received any compensation from anyone till today."*

Mrs. J further mentions that there are government lands suitable for their needs, but unfortunately, the authorities have not taken their concerns into consideration. Mrs. J's statement highlights the perceived lack of support and consideration from the authorities towards the fish vendors' livelihoods and economic well-being. The demolition without providing an alternative location indicates a disruption in their occupational continuity and potential financial instability.

#### 4.2.5 PARTICIPANT-FIVE

Mrs M, a 51-year-old female, was born in 1972 in the Trivandrum district of Kerala. She belongs to an economically weaker section and follows the Hindu faith. Currently, she works as a vegetable vendor in Sreekariyam. Her family consists of her husband, who is 55 years old, and her 21-year-old daughter. Mrs M's journey as a vegetable vendor began 31 years ago when she started this profession alongside her mother. Unfortunately, her mother passed away 15 years ago, but Mrs M decided to continue the family business.

In the early days of her venture, Mrs M experienced high demand for her vegetables. She recalls that there were so many customers that she didn't even have time to eat. Due to the large customer base, they were able to sell vegetables at very low prices. They had an abundance of tomatoes, potatoes, brinjals, onions, and various other vegetables. Customers flocked to their stall throughout the day, and the demand seemed limitless.

*"On Saturdays and Sundays, the number of customers doubled. As sales were high, the prices of vegetables were significantly lower compared to other shops and supermarkets. It was a good time, but now, since the demolition started, I don't know where the customers went. The point is that it indirectly affects our business. Now I am forced to sell vegetables for a higher price, and the remaining customers run away after hearing the price."*

Mrs M mentions that the number of customers would double on Saturdays and Sundays, indicating peak days for her vegetable vending business. During this period, the high sales allowed her to offer vegetables at a significantly lower price compared to other shops and supermarkets. This favourable situation contributed to a prosperous time for Mrs M's vegetable vending. Mrs M expresses concern about the current state of her business. She mentions that since the demolition started, she is uncertain about the whereabouts of her customers. This demolition, presumably referring to some form of construction or urban development, has indirectly affected her business. As a result, Mrs M has been forced to increase the prices of her vegetables. Unfortunately, this

change has caused some remaining customers to move away from making purchases upon hearing the higher prices.

*"I am eligible for the compensation package announced by the corporation, but if I collect it, then I should vacate from here. The only job I know is to sell vegetables; my mother taught me this. Everyone here knows me as a vegetable seller. I was with my mother here once, and I am alone now. Still, there are customers who purchase from me because of the love they had for my mother."*

Her current situation states that she is eligible for a compensation package offered by the corporation. However, she faces a difficult decision: if she accepts the compensation, she will be required to vacate her current location. Selling vegetables is the only occupation Mrs M knows, as it was passed down to her by her mother. She shares that her mother used to sell vegetables alongside her at the same place. Despite her mother's absence, Mrs M continues to operate the vegetable vending business alone. Remarkably, Mrs M is grateful to have loyal customers who still purchase vegetables from her. She attributes their continued support to the love and respect they had for her mother. The customers' affectionate memories of her mother contribute to their willingness to buy from Mrs M, even though she is now running the business on her own.

The problem with vegetable vending is that if the vegetables are not fresh, no one will buy them. To sell fresh vegetables, we need customers. Taking from wholesale, selling, and repeating the cycle, if there are no customers, the cycle will collapse. Customers purchase from us because of two reasons: the freshness of the vegetables and the cheap price. After the surrounding shops got demolished, no one comes here to purchase vegetables.

Mrs M highlights a significant challenge in the vegetable vending business, emphasizing the crucial role of freshness in attracting customers. She states that if the vegetables are not fresh, it becomes difficult to sell them. The key to success in her business lies in having a steady customer base. Mrs M follows a cycle of purchasing

vegetables from a wholesale supplier, selling them, and then repeating the process. This cycle heavily relies on the presence of customers. If there is a lack of customers, the entire cycle collapses, affecting her business.

Mrs M further explains that customers are drawn to their vegetable vending stall due to two primary reasons: the freshness of the vegetables and the affordability of the prices. These factors have been instrumental in attracting customers in the past.

Mrs M expresses her concern regarding the recent situation. She mentions that after the surrounding shops were demolished, no one comes to their location to purchase vegetables. This indicates a decline in customer traffic and the negative impact it has had on her business.

*"Earlier, there was a wholesale vegetable distributor who delivered vegetables to the shop. But now, he is not distributing to this area because there are only a few vegetable vendors here; earlier, there were many."*

Mrs M shares an important development regarding the distribution of vegetables in her area. She explains that previously, there was a wholesale vegetable distributor who would deliver fresh produce to the shop where she operates. She said that the distributor has stopped servicing their area. The reason behind this change is attributed to the decrease in the number of vegetable vendors in the Sreekariyam locality. Mrs M notes that in the past, there were numerous vegetable vendors operating in the area. This likely created a larger market and demand for fresh vegetables, prompting the wholesale distributor to regularly supply the vendors. Due to the reduction in the number of vendors, the distributor has made the decision to cease delivering to this particular area. This situation presents a significant challenge for Mrs M and the remaining vegetable vendors in the area. The limited availability of a wholesale vegetable distributor means they may face difficulties in accessing a consistent and reliable supply of fresh produce. This could further impact their ability to attract customers and sustain their businesses.

*"It is difficult to remain in the shop during the day. The excessive dust from the demolished buildings comes along with the wind, and it also covers the vegetables."*

Mrs M shares a challenging aspect of her work environment, specifically regarding the daytime conditions at her vegetable vending shop. She explains that it is difficult for her to stay in the shop during the day due to a particular issue: excessive dust from the demolished buildings that is carried by the wind.

The ongoing demolition in the area has created a significant amount of dust, which affects the surroundings, including her vegetable vending stall. The wind carries this excessive dust and deposits it onto the vegetables, causing them to become covered in a layer of dirt.

There was a building next to my shop earlier; it got demolished. That building gave us shade from the sun. Now the building is not there.

The demolition of a building located next to her shop is mentioned. She explains that the demolished building used to provide valuable shade, offering relief from the direct sunlight.

The presence of the building had been beneficial for Mrs M and her vegetable vending business. The shade it provided created a more comfortable and bearable working environment, shielding her and her produce from the intense heat of the sun. This shade not only provided physical relief but also helped in preserving the freshness and quality of the vegetables by preventing them from being exposed to excessive heat for extended periods.

*"I wish there was some help from the government prior to the demolition. This crisis could have been avoided."*

Mrs M expresses a wish for assistance from the government prior to the demolition of the surrounding buildings. She believes that if adequate help had been provided beforehand, the current crisis she is facing could have been avoided.

*"There is a difference between us and the building owners. They can receive compensation and they can buy or build anything they want, but for us, this is our only income source, our livelihood."*

Mrs M points out a significant difference between herself, as a vegetable vendor, and the building owners in the area. She highlights that the building owners have the advantage of receiving compensation for their properties and have the freedom to use that compensation to purchase or build anything they desire. In contrast, Mrs M and other vendors like her rely solely on their vegetable vending business as their source of income and livelihood. While building owners have the option to use the compensation received to reinvest or pursue alternative ventures, Mrs M and her fellow vendors are constrained by their dependence on their current occupation.

*"I have no idea where to go or whom to ask about the flyover construction and demolition in Sreekariyam happening now. Different individuals come each time the demolition work is given to contractors. If the demolition were over, then I could have shifted to an appropriate place in Sreekriyam itself, but the demolition process is not over yet. I have no idea when this will finish."*

She shares that she is unaware of whom to approach or where to seek information regarding the progress of the construction and demolition activities.

The situation is further complicated by the involvement of different individuals or contractors who are responsible for the demolition work. This suggests a lack of consistency and centralized information regarding the project. As a result, Mrs M is left with no clear guidance or direction. Mrs M explains that if the demolition had already been completed, she would have been able to relocate to a more suitable location within Sreekariyam itself. However, due to the ongoing nature of the demolition process, she

remains uncertain about when it will be finished and what the future holds for her business.

*"My house is close to Sreekariyam, so I don't have to spend extra money on travelling to the shop, and I can reach home in 10 minutes on foot. But if this situation prolongs, it will be difficult for me in all ways."*

Mrs M highlights the advantage of living close to Sreekariyam, where her vegetable vending shop is located. She mentions that her house is nearby, allowing her to save additional expenses on commuting to and from work. The convenience is evident as she can reach home within a 10-minute walk. Mrs M expresses concern about the potential difficulties she may face if the current situation, presumably referring to the ongoing construction and demolition activities, continues for an extended period. While she doesn't specify the exact challenges, it can be inferred that the disruptions caused by the construction work may impact her daily routine, livelihood, and overall well-being.

## **CHAPTER 5- THEMATIC ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION**



## 5.1 INTRODUCTION

The land acquisition for flyover construction in Sreekariyam has posed significant challenges for the unorganized workers in the area. This chapter focuses on the thematic analysis of the social, economic, and health challenges faced by these workers and explores their coping mechanisms to mitigate the adverse effects of the land acquisition. The chapter also delves into the perspectives of the workers on the concept of development in relation to their experiences.

## 5.2 PROFILE OF THE PARTICIPANTS

<b>Participant</b>	<b>Mr F</b>	<b>Mr U</b>	<b>Mrs S</b>	<b>Mrs J</b>	<b>Mrs M</b>
<b>Age</b>	66	56	65	69	51
<b>Sex</b>	Male	Male	Female	Female	Female
<b>Religion</b>	Christian	Hindu	Muslim	Christian	Hindu
<b>Education</b>	5th grade	10th grade	3rd grade	None	10th grade
<b>Family Composition</b>	Wife (59), Son (29), Daughter (25)	Father (96), Mother (89), Wife (50), Daughter (27)	Husband (60), Son (40), Daughter 1 (38), Daughter 2 (36)	Husband (74), Daughter 1 (41), Daughter 2 (39)	Hindu 10th grade Husband (55), Daughter (21)
<b>UOW Type</b>	Clay pot vendor	Saloon	Fruit vending	Fish vending	Vegetable vendor
<b>Locality</b>	Within 5 km radius	Within 5 km radius	Within 5 km radius	Within 20 km radius	Within 5 km radius

<b>Years of Experience</b>	13	13	35	37	31
<b>Location of Trade</b>	Sreekariyam Market	Sreekariyam - Chakkalamuk	Sreekariyam	Sreekariyam	Sreekariyam
<b>Monthly Income</b>	6,000	12,000	7,000	12,000	8,000

*Table 1 Profile of Participants*

### **5.3 RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

#### **• 5.3.1 Central Research Question**

- What are the socio-economic and health challenges for the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam in reference to the land acquisition for flyover construction?

#### **• 5.3.2 Specific Research Questions**

- What are the social challenges faced by the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam in reference to the land acquisition for flyover construction?
- What are the economic challenges faced by the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam in reference to the land acquisition for flyover construction?
- What are the health challenges faced by the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam in reference to the land acquisition for flyover construction?
- What are the coping mechanisms employed by unorganized workers to mitigate the adverse effects of the land acquisition?
- What is development according to the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam?

## **5.4 ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION**

**Social challenges faced by the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam in reference to the land acquisition for flyover construction?**

### **5.5 THEME ONE -SOCIAL CHALLENGES**

#### **➤ Sub-theme - Loss of established relationships**

The land acquisition for flyover construction in Sreekariyam has had a profound impact on the social and community connections of the unorganized workers in the area, namely Mr. U, Mr. F, Mrs. S, Mrs. J, Mrs. M, and Mrs. N. These workers, who heavily relied on the market and its associated activities, are now facing the loss of the social networks and support systems they once had.

The process of land acquisition has led to the dislocation and scattering of people, resulting in the disruption of established social connections and a decline in community cohesion. Previously close-knit relationships with customers, fellow business owners, neighbors, and other members of the community have been strained or even severed due to the changes brought about by the land acquisition.

For instance, Mr. F expresses his concerns about the declining number of sellers in the market, predicting that after the complete demolition, there will be hardly anyone left, scattering everyone. The loss of customers and the decline in customer traffic have deeply affected Mrs. M's vegetable vending business. She used to have a steady customer base, particularly on weekends when sales were high, but now she struggles to find her customers, leading to difficulties in selling fresh vegetables.

Moreover, the social challenges faced by the unorganized workers extend beyond economic factors. Mrs. J highlights the frustration with politicians who often make promises during elections but are nowhere to be found once the elections are over. This lack of sustained support and engagement from political representatives adds to the disillusionment felt by marginalized communities like Mrs. J's.

The dislocation and scattering of people due to the land acquisition have disrupted the daily interactions and connections that once provided a sense of community and support for the unorganized workers. The absence of these social networks and the strained relationships that result can have a significant impact on their well-being, both personally and professionally. The workers now find themselves grappling with the loss of familiar faces, reduced community engagement, and a sense of isolation in the midst of these social challenges.

*Mr. F "In this market, there were many sellers earlier but now there are only very less people, after the complete demolition of the market there won't be anyone here everyone will be scattered."*

The significance of having a steady customer base for Mrs M's vegetable vending business. The decline in customer traffic due to the demolition has disrupted her business cycle, making it difficult to sell fresh vegetables.

*"Mrs M- On Saturdays and Sundays, the number of customers doubled. As sales were high, the prices of vegetables were significantly lower compared to other shops and supermarkets. It was a good time, but now, since the demolition started, I don't know where the customers went. The point is that it indirectly affects our business"*

#### ➤ **Subtheme - Political Disillusionment and Inconsistent Support**

Mrs. J's frustration with politicians and their lack of sustained support after elections highlights a common sentiment among marginalized communities. Her statement speaks about the challenges faced by economically disadvantaged individuals in engaging with political representatives and accessing necessary support.

*Mrs J- "During the time of elections, everyone will come in Infront of us by folding their hands, once the election is over, we can't find them."*

➤ **Sub-theme- Reduced Community Engagement**

Mr F had a history of working for the welfare of the people through social action movements. However, the conflicts surrounding him based on the relocation caused him to move away from such initiatives.

*Mr F: "I was selling vegetables in the Sreekariyam market for the past 13 years, and after starting the demolishing process the business suddenly reduced. Vegetables spoil in two or three days, if there are no customers that's it end of the business. There weren't any options what can we do if no one comes to the market?"*

➤ **Sub-theme - Disruption of Social Bonds**

The scattering of people due to the demolition disrupts the established social connections and community cohesion, as witnessed by Mr J's concerns about where she and others will go after the market's destruction.

The demolition and subsequent scattering of people due to the land acquisition have had a profound impact on the established social bonds and community cohesion in Sreekariyam. This disruption is evident in the concerns expressed by individuals like Mr. J, who face the uncertainty of where they and others will go once the market is destroyed. The demolition process not only involves the physical destruction of buildings but also uproots the interconnected web of relationships and social connections that have been nurtured over time. The scattering of people who once gathered and interacted in the market disrupts the sense of familiarity and community that had developed among them. It leaves individuals like Mr. J questioning what the future holds for them and their fellow community members.

➤ **Sub-theme- Helplessness**

Mr F's age limits his ability to consider other job opportunities or relocate his shop. He feels trapped by the demolition and the changes it brings, which exacerbates his sense of helplessness.

Mr. F's situation reflects the sense of helplessness experienced by many unorganized workers facing the land acquisition and demolition process. His age acts as a limiting factor, making it difficult for him to explore alternative job opportunities or relocate his shop in response to the changes brought about by the demolition. The demolition has disrupted the stability and predictability of his livelihood, leaving him grappling with the feeling that his options are severely limited.

➤ **Sub-theme- Forced Relocation**

The demolition of the building housing Mr. U's salon near the Sreekariyam Muslim Juma Masjid led to his displacement and the need to find an alternative location for his business.

The forced relocation of Mr. U's salon near the Sreekariyam Muslim Juma Masjid stands as a major example of the challenges faced by unorganized workers due to land acquisition and demolition. The demolition of the building that housed his salon has not only displaced him but also necessitated the search for a new location to continue his business. The forced relocation brings with it a myriad of challenges for Mr. U. It requires him to navigate through the complexities of securing a new space, negotiating lease terms, and potentially facing increased costs in rent and deposits.

➤ **Sub-theme - Competition and Location**

Existing established salons in the new area, the loss of regular customers due to displacement, lack of parking space, and the shop's location away from the city further contribute to the decline in customers and pose challenges for Mr. U's salon business.

*Mrs. S “I don’t know what to do if we were forced to stop selling fruits here it is our livelihood”*

➤ **Sub-theme - Sense of Isolation**

Mrs S emphasizes the importance of social connections and support within her community. She had a good relationship with other fruit vendors and shared a sense of community with them. The support and guidance she received from fellow vendors played a significant role in her business and overall well-being.

*Mrs. S “In this line, there were three other fruit vendors, but they left this place. One of them went to another place and the other person rented a shutter room for their business. Where can we go at this age when we don’t have the money to rent a shop? Now we are just alone”*

➤ **Sub-theme - Family Problems**

Impacted Mrs. S, Mrs. J, and Mrs.N through financial pressure, emotional support, adaptation, role reversals, and education, either exacerbating or alleviating the social challenges they face during land acquisition for flyover construction.

*Mrs. S “I used to have a very good relationship with the people who traded fruits here previously, I taught them the business, they were always available and I shared my problems with them”*

**What are the economic challenges faced by the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam in reference to the land acquisition for flyover construction?**

**5.6 THEME TWO – ECONOMIC CHALLENGES**

➤ **Sub-theme - Increased Expenses**

The relocation brought additional challenges and expenses associated with moving the salon, including higher monthly rent and a significant increase in the deposit amount. Mr. U expresses concern about the financial burden and the impact on his livelihood.

*Mrs. M “After one month the building owners reconstructed the building and they rented the building again with a change, the deposit for the building started from 10 lakhs and the rent was tripled.”*

Mrs M's economic struggles as a vegetable vendor from an economically weaker section. She relies on the income generated from her vegetable vending business as her sole livelihood. The demolition of surrounding buildings and the subsequent decline in customers have directly impacted her business, forcing her to increase prices and face the risk of losing more customers. The limited availability of a wholesale vegetable distributor further compounds her economic challenges.

➤ **Sub-theme - Reduced Customer Base**

The absence of parking facilities, and the demolition of buildings, further discourage customers, resulting in the loss of customers. The displacement of other shops in Sreekariyam also contributes to the decline in customers.

*Mr. U “I lost most of the regular customers since I relocated only very few of them visit now”*

➤ **Sub-theme- Loss of Regular Customers**

Mr. U had built a credible reputation and earned the trust of a diverse customer base in his previous shop, attracting school children, college students, professionals, and unorganized workers. However, after the relocation, only 30% of the regular customers returned, leading to a significant loss of business.



### **Sub-theme - Lack of alternative opportunities**

Mrs S faces several economic challenges that affect her livelihood. She belongs to an economically weaker section, lives in a rented house, and has no savings or assets. The reduction in customers and the displacement of vendors in the Sreekariyam market have impacted her fruit vending business. The economic constraints and lack of alternative opportunities make it difficult for her to sustain her business and meet her financial needs.

Mrs S faces several economic challenges that affect her livelihood. She belongs to an economically weaker section, lives in a rented house, and has no savings or assets. The reduction in customers and the displacement of vendors in the Sreekariyam market have impacted her fruit vending business. The economic constraints and lack of alternative opportunities make it difficult for her to sustain her business and meet her financial needs.

*Mr. F “The business in Sreekariyam was based on the market, people visit the market for purchasing daily essentials. This traffic (flow of people) to the market has contributed to the business in the neighbouring commercial establishments and other unorganized workers. After the purchase, most of the customers depended on local transportation facilities like auto and local buses, tea shops, hotels, textile shops, mechanic shops, bakeries, cool bars, mobile phone repair and recharge shops, and even ice cream sellers benefited from the existence of this market”*

### **➤ Sub-theme- Market Changes and Decreased Opportunities**

The demolition of shops around the market and the subsequent decrease in the number of customers reflect the challenges faced by fish vendors like Mrs. J. Market dynamics, regulations, and urban development can significantly impact the viability of their business and reduce their sales opportunities. This subtheme emphasizes the vulnerability of self-employed individuals to external market forces and highlights the need for adaptive strategies to sustain their livelihoods.

*"Mrs J said that if she is not selling fish for one day, the situation in her family will get complicated. All the expenses of their family are met by selling fish, including both her daughter's marriage. Sometimes we will starve times we have income it's stable, It is the situation of all the fish vendors in Sreekariyam said, Mrs. J."*

Mrs. J's limited monthly earnings from fish vending and her family's struggle to make ends meet indicate the economic constraints they face. This financial limitation impacts various aspects of their lives, including access to healthcare, education, and a comfortable standard of living. The statement about where individuals from economically disadvantaged backgrounds would go if they continue to face such challenges emphasizes the vulnerability and limited options available to those living in poverty.

**What are the health challenges faced by the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam in reference to the land acquisition for flyover construction?**

### **5.6 THEME THREE – HEALTH CHALLENGES**

#### **➤ Sub-theme- Chronic Health Conditions and Physical Demands of Fruit Vending**

Both Mrs S and her husband face significant health challenges, including diabetes, high blood pressure, varicose veins, and musculoskeletal issues. These health conditions impose physical limitations and increase the burden on their daily lives. After the partial demolition of the market due to the reduction of customers she started vending fruits outside the market which took away the provision to sit, due to lack of space she need to stand the entire day.

#### **➤ Sub-theme - Physical Limitations**

Mr. U anticipates his physical condition deteriorating in a few years, preventing him from continuing his work as a barber. He believes that hairdressing is a profession suited for young individuals and that age could hinder his effectiveness.

➤ **Sub-theme -Unplanned demolition-induced health concerns**

The unplanned removal of the market's roof during the demolition process creates unsafe conditions, leading to incidents like the fish vendor fainting. Mrs. J and Mrs N are facing difficulty in being in the market under severe un light. This highlights the need for proper planning and consideration for the safety and well-being of those affected.

*Mrs S "I and my husband have many health problems, both of us are diabetic and we have high blood pressure. I have varicose vein and my husband's disc is dislocated, he also has severe sholder pain"*

The demolition of the neighboring building has removed the shade that provided Mrs M and her produce with protection from direct sunlight. Without adequate shade, Mrs M is exposed to prolonged sun exposure during her work hours.

*Mrs M "It is difficult to remain in the shop during the day. The excessive dust from the demolished buildings comes along with the wind, and it also covers the vegetables."*

The case study highlights the detrimental impact of the ongoing demolition on Mrs M's health and the quality of her produce. The excessive dust generated from the demolished buildings poses a significant health risk. Inhaling dust particles can lead to respiratory issues, allergies, and other respiratory ailments. The presence of dust on the vegetables compromises their cleanliness and quality, potentially causing foodborne illnesses if consumed by customers.

**What are the coping mechanisms employed by unorganized workers to mitigate the adverse effects of the land acquisition?**

#### **5.7 THEME FOUR- COPING MECHANISMS**

➤ **Subtheme - Changing business**

Mr F started selling clay pots as he faced severe loss selling vegetables

➤ **Subtheme - Changing location**

Mr U, and Mrs S changed their location of trade. Mrs S moved her shop outside the market and Mr U shifted his saloon to a new rented room.

*Mrs. S“My shop was inside the market one year, but there aren't many people coming inside the market now, nobody comes just for purchasing fruits, for survival, I shifted my shop outside the market”*

**What is development according to the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam?**

#### **5.8 THEME FIVE- DEVELOPMENT ACCORDING TO THE DISPLACED**

**Subtheme - Uncertainty and Anxiety**

Mr F expresses concerns about the future and the lack of alternatives after the demolition. The unplanned nature of the demolition, along with the lack of compensation and education sessions, adds to the uncertainty.

Mrs S expresses deep concern and uncertainty about the potential cessation of her fruit vending business. The livelihood of herself and her husband is at stake, and they are unsure about what they would do if forced to stop selling fruits.

### **Subtheme - Negative Outlook**

Mrs S perceives the proposed development initiatives, such as the relocation of bus stands, and auto stands as potentially dangerous to his business and the market. Mrs. S's negative outlook on the proposed development initiatives reflects her concerns about the potential negative impact on her business and the market as a whole. She perceives initiatives like the relocation of bus stands and auto stands as potentially dangerous, foreseeing adverse consequences for her livelihood and the overall functioning of the market. For Mrs. S, who runs a fruit vending business, any changes in the market's dynamics can significantly affect her daily operations and customer flow. The proposed relocation of bus stands and auto stands implies a shift in the transportation routes and patterns, potentially diverting foot traffic away from the market area. This shift raises worries about a decline in customer visits, reduced visibility, and ultimately a negative impact on her sales.

### **Subtheme- Construction Timeline**

Mr. U doubts the completion of the construction project within the estimated 5-year timeframe, expressing scepticism due to it being a state government project.

Mr. U's doubt regarding the construction project's status as a state government endeavour is the foundation of his concerns about its completion within the projected 5-year timetable. His lack of faith in the project's timely completion compels him to worry about the ongoing disruption and uncertainty that unorganised workers like himself will experience.

Mr. U expresses his doubt about the project's timeframe as an experienced person who is familiar with how government projects operate. He challenges the ability of the state government to properly complete the development within the projected period given its reputation for complicated processes and potential delays.

*Mr. U “I am 56 years old now, authorities say that this construction process takes up to 5 years. I don’t think that I will be able to work as a barber in my 60s.”*

**CHAPTER 6- FINDINGS, SGGESTIONS, AND  
CONCLUSION**

## 6.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the findings and discussion derived from the thematic analysis of the challenges faced by unorganized workers in Sreekariyam due to land acquisition for flyover construction. The previous chapters have provided an in-depth exploration of the social, economic, and health dimensions of these challenges. Consolidate and analyze the identified themes to gain a comprehensive understanding of the experiences and perspectives of the unorganized workers in relation to the development-induced displacement.

The findings presented in this chapter offer valuable insights into the complex and interrelated issues faced by unorganized workers as a result of the land acquisition. The thematic analysis has revealed the multifaceted nature of their challenges, encompassing social disruptions, economic constraints, and health concerns. Through the voices and stories of individuals such as Mr. U, Mr. F, Mrs. S, Mrs. J, Mrs. M, and Mrs. N

## 6.2 BASE OF THEMATIC ANALYSIS

### 6.3 PARTICIPANT ONE

Category	Key Points
Demographic Details	66 years old/Married/Christian/Economically weaker section/ Selling clay pots
Current Situation	Previously sold vegetables, Business declined due to demolition, Now sells clay pots, Opens shop daily at 8am
Social Factors	Proud of church connections, Wife converted religions causing family conflicts, Concerned about son's unemployment



Health Factors	Vision impaired, Stomach ache, Underwent bladder surgery, Family history of TB, Daughter treated for GI TB
Economic Factors	Varying income, Daughter recently started earning, Spent savings on children's education and medical emergencies
Interconnectedness	Market supported various businesses like shops, transportation in vicinity
Uncertainty	Relocation of market causes uncertainty about future
External Pressures	Financial constraints, Daughter's marriage
Age	Feels unable to adapt due to age
Unplanned Demolition	Vendor death from heat exposure during demolition shows lack of planning
Shifted Market Dynamics	Fewer sellers- Illicit activities during nights
Perception of Development	Concerned bus stand relocation will deter customers
Rehabilitation	No compensation yet,- Lack of education about development process
Effects of Displacement	- Disruption of economic activities,- Community fragmentation

*Table 1 Thematic Analysis Base of Participant one*

#### **6.4 PARTICIPANT TWO**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Key Points</b>
Demographic Details	56 years old- Hindu- Runs a salon, Wife, elderly parents, married daughter

Social Factors	Lived in Gulf for 18 years- Faced challenges like crowded living, harsh climate, labor-intensive work, Responsibility as family breadwinner
Current Situation	Forced relocation of salon 1 km away- Faced additional expenses due to demolition
Age	Concern he may be unable to continue as barber in a few years
Economic Factors	Paid high advance and increased rent for new salon, Uncertain timeline and delays in construction
Impact on Livelihood	Loss of regular customers due to relocation- Lack of parking and distance deter customers - Sudden rental increase an obstacle, Location more important than facilities
Precarity of livelihood	Forced relocation disrupted established business, Loss of regular customers and income due to displacement, Lack of rehabilitation support
Lack of agency	Forced to vacate previous premises due to demolition, No involvement in development planning process
Age and physical ability	Concerns that advancing age may prevent continuing as barber, Barbering requires physical ability starting at young age
Financial hardship	Paid high advance and increased rent for new premises, Sudden rental increases pose financial obstacle
Importance of location	Location more significant than facilities for business success, Distance and parking issues deter customers
Uncertainty about future	Unclear timeline for redevelopment completion, Uncertain if can regain space after construction
Social isolation	Leads private life currently, Lost connections and networks due to relocation

Competition	Highly competitive industry, Established salons in area pose challenge after relocation
Loss of community	Dependence on local customer base and relationships, Disconnection from community due to displacement
Psychological impact	Stress, anxiety about livelihood disruption, Uncertainty and lack of control psychologically taxing
Lack of social support	Leads private life currently, loss of previous networks, Minimal family assistance due to their circumstances
Communication	Lack of effective information about rehabilitation plans, Need for clarity on construction timelines

*Table 2 Table 1 Thematic Analysis Base of Participant Two*

### **6.5 PARTICIPANT THREE**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Key Points</b>
Demographic Details	65 years old, married, Muslim, fruit vendor for 35 years
Livelihood Precarity	Shifted shop due to fewer customers, Other vendors discontinued, increasing isolation, Lacks resources to relocate or rent shop
Social Capital	Lifelong connection to Sreekariyam, Close ties with other vendors previously
Health Vulnerabilities	She and husband have multiple chronic conditions, Require ongoing management and treatment
Financial Hardship	Minimal savings or assets, Daily earnings spent on basic needs

Family Obligations	Gave land to daughters for marriage, Son works as daily wage earner
Gender Roles	Daughters married and not in contact, Husband assists in vending work
Rehabilitation Needs	Uncertainty if forced to stop vending, Fruit vending is only livelihood source
Knowledge and Awareness	Unaware of rehabilitation policies and support, Lack of information on development plans
Legal Protection	No legal recourse if forced to stop vending, Vulnerable to harassment without permits
Psychological Impact	Anxiety about loss of livelihood, Stress of displacement and uncertainty
Identity	Sense of belonging to Sreekariyam community, Defines self by vending work
Access to Services	Distance and mobility issues accessing healthcare
Social Exclusion	Isolation due to discontinuation of other vendors
Coping Mechanisms	Seeking alternate vending locations, Reliance on husband's support
Faith and Religion	Derives solace and strength from religious faith

*Table 3 Thematic Analysis Base of Participant Three*

## 6.6 PARTICIPANT FOUR

Category	Key Points
Demographic Details	69 years old, Christian, fish vendor for 37 years, monthly income 12,000 rupees

Occupational History	Relocated from Alumood 25 years ago, fish vending is family "kulathozil"
Livelihood Precarity	Stay in market longer due to fewer customers, lack of alternate employment options, police threats for roadside vending
Health Vulnerabilities	Husband is blind, she had a stroke and has functional limitations, migraines worsen in sunlight
Financial Hardship	Debt of 50,000 rupees, sold auto rickshaw during pandemic, high costs for fish purchase and transport
Lack of Social Support	Limited visits from daughters, no support from government agencies
Gender Roles	Became breadwinner after husband lost vision
Uncertainty	Concerns about where to go if unable to sell fish
Communication	Perception of being ignored by authorities regarding relocation
Knowledge and Awareness	Unaware of rehabilitation policies and support programs
Legal Protection	No licenses or legal status for vending work
Social Capital	Fish vendors cooperate on scheduling and operations
Vulnerability	Health emergencies can severely impact family
Coping Mechanisms	Taking loans during difficult times
Psychological Impact	Stress about debt repayment and family's needs
Access to Services	Transportation costs and distance barriers for healthcare
Political Participation	Perception of being ignored after elections

*Table 4 Thematic Analysis Base of Participant Four*

## 6.7 PARTICIPANT FIVE

Category	Key Points
Demographic Details	51 years old, Hindu, Vegetable vendor for 31 years
Occupational History	Learned from mother, continued after her passing, High sales and low prices previously
Business Challenges	Decline in customers after demolition, Wholesale supplier stopped distribution, Excess dust and lack of shade
Financial Constraints	Forced to increase prices, customers deterred, Compensation requires vacating current site
Knowledge and Information	Unaware of demolition timelines and process, No guidance on where to relocate
Proximity Advantage	House is nearby so minimal transport cost
Social Capital	Loyal customers due to mother's reputation

*Table 5 Thematic Analysis Base of Participant Five*

## 6.8 ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

### 6.8.1 SOCIAL CHALLENGES

The social challenges faced by unorganized workers in Sreekariyam due to land acquisition for flyover construction are significant and have far-reaching effects on their lives. One of the prominent challenges is the loss of established relationships. The land acquisition and subsequent demolition disrupt the social networks and support systems that unorganized workers heavily rely on. Relationships with customers, fellow business owners, and neighbors are strained or even severed as a result of these changes. This loss of connections and support can have a profound impact on the workers' well-

being, both personally and professionally. They find themselves grappling with the absence of familiar faces, reduced community engagement, and a sense of isolation.

The unorganized workers express political disillusionment and frustration with inconsistent support from politicians. During election campaigns, politicians often make promises to marginalized communities like the unorganized workers, but once the elections are over, they are nowhere to be found. This lack of sustained support and engagement adds to the workers' disillusionment and further deepens their social challenges.

The scattering of people due to the land acquisition also leads to reduced community engagement. Daily interactions and connections that once provided a sense of community and support are disrupted. The workers face challenges in maintaining their social connections, and the sense of familiarity and belonging that once existed within their community is eroded. This loss of community cohesion can contribute to feelings of isolation and further compound the social challenges they face.

The social challenges arising from the land acquisition for flyover construction in Sreekariyam significantly impact the unorganized workers. The disruption of established relationships, political disillusionment, and reduced community engagement all contribute to a sense of loss, isolation, and disconnection. Addressing these challenges requires attention to the workers' social well-being, fostering community support, and ensuring sustained engagement from political representatives to provide the necessary support and mitigate the adverse effects of the land acquisition.

**Increased Expenses:** The relocation process imposes additional financial burdens on the unorganized workers, such as higher rent and deposit amounts. **Reduced Customer Base:** The absence of parking facilities, demolition of buildings, and displacement of shops lead to a decline in customers for the unorganized workers. **Lack of Alternative Opportunities:** Unorganized workers face limited options for alternative employment, exacerbating their economic challenges.

### **6.8.2 ECONOMIC CHALLENGES**

The economic challenges faced by unorganized workers in Sreekariyam due to land acquisition for flyover construction are significant and have a direct impact on their livelihoods. These challenges encompass increased expenses, a reduced customer base, and a lack of alternative opportunities.

One of the economic challenges is the increased expenses that unorganized workers face during the relocation process. The need to find new locations for their businesses often comes with higher rent and deposit amounts. This additional financial burden puts a strain on their limited resources and makes it more challenging to sustain their businesses.

The absence of parking facilities, demolition of buildings, and displacement of shops also contribute to a reduced customer base for unorganized workers. These changes disrupt the usual flow of customers and foot traffic, making it harder for them to attract and retain customers. Without a steady stream of customers, their businesses suffer, leading to decreased income and financial instability.

Furthermore, unorganized workers face a lack of alternative opportunities for employment. Due to the nature of their work and the specific skills they possess, finding other job options becomes difficult. The unavailability of alternative employment worsens their economic challenges, leaving them heavily dependent on their existing businesses. This lack of options limits their ability to explore different avenues for income generation and puts them at a higher risk of financial instability.

Collectively, these economic challenges pose a significant threat to the financial well-being and sustainability of unorganized workers in Sreekariyam. The increased expenses, reduced customer base, and limited alternative opportunities make it difficult for them to maintain a stable income and support themselves and their families. Addressing these challenges requires targeted support, such as financial assistance, business development initiatives, and opportunities for skill enhancement and diversification.



### **6.8.3 HEALTH CHALLENGES**

The health challenges faced by unorganized workers in Sreekariyam due to land acquisition for flyover construction have significant implications for their well-being and ability to perform their work. These challenges include preexisting chronic health conditions and physical demands, physical limitations, and unplanned demolition-induced health concerns.

Unorganized workers often face chronic health conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, varicose veins, and musculoskeletal problems. These health issues can limit their physical capabilities and create challenges in carrying out their daily work responsibilities. The physical demands of their occupations, such as standing for long hours or lifting heavy objects, can exacerbate their health conditions and further impact their ability to perform their work effectively.

Ageing workers, like Mr. U, anticipate physical deterioration as they grow older, which can hinder their effectiveness in their current occupations. The physical limitations associated with ageing can make it more challenging for them to meet the demands of their work, resulting in reduced productivity and potential health risks.

During the demolition process, unorganized workers face unplanned health concerns. Unsafe conditions, such as excessive dust and lack of shade, pose health risks to the workers. Inhaling dust particles can lead to respiratory issues and allergies, while prolonged exposure to direct sunlight without adequate shade can result in heat-related illnesses. These unplanned demolition-induced health concerns further add to the challenges faced by unorganized workers during the land acquisition process.

### **6.8.4 COPING MECHANISMS**

In response to the adverse effects of land acquisition for flyover construction, unorganized workers in Sreekariyam employ various coping mechanisms to mitigate the challenges they face. Two prominent coping mechanisms observed are changing business and changing location.

One coping mechanism is changing business ventures. Unorganized workers, like Mr. F, recognize the need to adapt to the changing circumstances and explore alternative sources of income. For example, Mr. F shifted from selling vegetables to selling clay pots. This shift allows him to diversify his business and tap into a different market segment. Changing business ventures enables workers to explore new opportunities and leverage their skills in different domains, potentially mitigating the economic challenges they face.

Another coping mechanism employed by unorganized workers is changing the location of their shops or businesses. Relocating their businesses allows them to adapt to the changes brought about by land acquisition. For instance, workers like Mr. U and Mrs. S chose to relocate their shops outside the market area. By moving to a different location, they aim to maintain their customer base and continue their businesses. Changing location provides them with a fresh start and the potential to establish themselves in a new area where their services may be in demand.

By employing these coping mechanisms, unorganized workers in Sreekariyam demonstrate resilience and adaptability in the face of challenges. Changing businesses and changing locations offer them the opportunity to navigate the changing landscape and seek alternative means of sustaining their livelihoods.

#### **6.8.5 PERSPECTIVES OF DEVELOPMENT**

The perspectives of unorganized workers in Sreekariyam regarding development in relation to land acquisition for flyover construction are characterized by uncertainty, anxiety, negative outlook, and concerns about the construction timeline.

Uncertainty and anxiety are prevalent among unorganized workers who express concerns about the future and the lack of alternatives after the demolition. They are uncertain about what the changes brought by the land acquisition mean for their livelihoods and how they will be able to adapt to the new circumstances. This uncertainty creates anxiety as they face the potential loss of their businesses and the challenges associated with finding alternative sources of income.

Some workers hold a negative outlook towards proposed development initiatives. They perceive initiatives such as the relocation of bus stands as potentially harmful to their businesses and the overall functioning of the market. They anticipate adverse consequences that could disrupt their daily operations and customer flow. The negative outlook stems from their understanding of the market dynamics and their concerns about the impact of proposed changes on their business viability.

Doubts are also expressed regarding the construction timeline of the flyover project. Unorganized workers question whether the project will be completed within the estimated timeframe, expressing doubt about the ability of the state government to deliver the development as planned. This doubt contributes to worries about ongoing disruption and uncertainty in the area, as workers are uncertain about the duration of the changes and the implications for their livelihoods.

These perspectives on development highlight the complex dynamics and concerns of unorganized workers in Sreekariyam. The uncertainty, anxiety, negative outlook, and doubts about the construction timeline demonstrate the need for clear communication, transparency, and effective engagement with the workers to address their concerns. Providing them with accurate information about the development plans, timelines, and potential support measures can help alleviate their anxiety and build trust. Involving them in the decision-making process and incorporating their perspectives can lead to more inclusive and sustainable development outcomes that consider their well-being and livelihoods.

#### **6.8.6 IMPORTANCE OF FINDING ALTERNATE SPACE FOR THE UNORGANIZED WORKERS**

One of the major findings of the research is the importance of finding alternative space for the unorganized workers affected by the land acquisition for flyover construction. This finding highlights the significance of providing suitable and accessible locations for these workers to continue their businesses and sustain their livelihoods.

The land acquisition and subsequent demolition disrupt the existing infrastructure and establishments where the unorganized workers operated. Without alternative spaces, these workers face the risk of losing their businesses and income sources. Therefore, finding alternative spaces becomes crucial in mitigating the adverse effects of land acquisition and supporting the well-being of the affected workers.

First and foremost, providing alternative space ensures the continuity of their businesses. Unorganized workers have established their customer base, developed networks, and gained familiarity within their previous locations. Disrupting these connections can have severe economic consequences for them. By finding alternative spaces in proximity to their previous locations or in areas with similar market dynamics, the unorganized workers can maintain their customer relationships and retain their market presence.

Finding alternative space also contributes to preserving the social fabric and community cohesion that unorganized workers rely on. These workers often form tight-knit communities within their working environments. Displacement from their original locations can result in the loss of social networks, established relationships, and support systems. Providing alternative spaces in close proximity to their previous locations allows them to remain connected to their communities, customers, and fellow workers, thereby fostering a sense of belonging and reducing the social challenges they face.

Alternative spaces need to be accessible and suitable for the specific needs of unorganized workers. Factors such as affordability, infrastructure, amenities, and proximity to transportation facilities play a crucial role. Accessible spaces ensure that unorganized workers can easily reach their workplaces and that customers can continue to access their goods and services. The suitability of the space in terms of size, layout, and facilities is essential for the workers to carry out their business activities effectively.

Finding alternative space for unorganized workers requires collaborative efforts between relevant stakeholders, including government authorities, urban planners, community representatives, and the workers themselves. It necessitates proactive

measures such as identifying suitable locations, securing the necessary permits and licenses, and providing support for the relocation process.

### **6.8.7 IMPACT ON WOMEN AND SKILLED WORKERS**

The differential impact of land acquisition for flyover construction on women and skilled workers. This finding highlights the specific challenges and implications faced by these two groups within the broader context of the unorganized worker community.

The analysis reveals that women unorganized workers in Sreekariyam are significantly affected by land acquisition and subsequent changes. Several key observations shed light on their specific challenges. Firstly, women unorganized workers, such as Mrs. S and Mrs. M, rely on their businesses, such as fruit vending and vegetable vending, as their primary source of income. The demolition of surrounding buildings, decline in customer traffic, and displacement of vendors directly impact their businesses. These economic struggles exacerbate their financial vulnerabilities and limit their ability to meet their financial needs and support their families.

The loss of established relationships due to land acquisition affects women unorganized workers disproportionately. These relationships not only include customers but also fellow business owners and neighbours who provide social support and guidance. The disruption of these networks leaves women, unorganized workers, with a sense of isolation and a lack of social support, making it harder for them to navigate the challenges they face.

Women unorganized workers, such as Mrs. S and Mrs. J, express concerns related to health and safety. The unplanned demolition and exposure to excessive dust pose health risks to them. The lack of shade and prolonged sun exposure during work hours also have implications for their well-being. These health and safety concerns further compound the challenges faced by women unorganized workers in Sreekariyam.

Turning to skilled workers, such as Mr. U, who have honed their skills and expertise in specific occupations, they also face unique challenges due to land acquisition. Skilled workers experience displacement and a loss of reputation as they are forced to relocate their shops. This disrupts their established clientele and the trust they have built with their customers over time, directly impacting their income and stability.

Skilled workers often incur additional expenses during the relocation process, including higher rent and deposit amounts. These financial burdens strain their resources and limit their capacity to adapt to the changes brought about by land acquisition. Skilled workers express concerns about their ability to continue their occupations as they age. The physical demands of their skilled work may become more challenging over time, limiting their effectiveness and potential for growth. The uncertainty surrounding their future in their current occupations adds to their apprehensions and creates a sense of insecurity.

#### **6.8.8 INTERCONNECTEDNESS AND INTERDEPENDANCE OF SREEKARIYAM MARKET**

The interconnectedness and interdependence of the Sreekariyam market underscore the significance of this market as a hub for various unorganized workers and its role in supporting their livelihoods. This finding highlights the complex web of relationships, economic dynamics, and community cohesion that characterize the market and its impact on the unorganized worker community in Sreekariyam.

The Sreekariyam Market serves as a central meeting point and trading hub for a diverse range of unorganized workers. It functions as a marketplace where vendors and businesses, such as vegetable vendors, fruit vendors, clay pot vendors, salons, and fish vendors, converge to sell their products and services. This intermingling of different businesses creates a vibrant ecosystem within the market, fostering economic activities and providing essential goods and services to the local community.

The inter-connectedness within Sreekariyam Market is evident through the relationships and dependencies that exist among the unorganized workers. The unorganized workers rely on each other for support, collaboration, and customer flow. For example, Mr. F highlights the ripple effect of market activities, where the flow of people to the market benefits not only the vendors but also neighbouring commercial establishments and other unorganized workers. The presence of the market supports a network of interconnected businesses, such as tea shops, hotels, textile shops, mechanic shops, bakeries, cool bars, mobile phone repair and recharge shops, and even ice cream sellers.

The interdependence within Sreekariyam Market is crucial for the economic stability and viability of the unorganized workers. Many workers depend on the market's customer traffic and the presence of other businesses to sustain their own operations. The decline in customers or disruption to the market ecosystem, as observed through the land acquisition and subsequent demolition, directly impacts the livelihoods of these workers. For example, Mrs. M's vegetable vending business relied on a steady customer base, particularly on weekends when sales were high. The demolition process has resulted in a significant decline in customer traffic, making it difficult for her to sell fresh vegetables and maintain her business.

The inter-connectedness and interdependence within Sreekariyam Market extend beyond economic factors. The market serves as a social hub where unorganized workers develop relationships, establish support networks, and foster a sense of community. The loss of this interconnectedness due to land acquisition disrupts the social fabric and community cohesion. It leaves unorganized workers, such as Mr. U and Mrs. S, feeling isolated and disconnected from the familiar faces and social support they once had. This sense of loss further deepens the challenges they face during the transition period.

Recognizing the interconnectedness and interdependence of the Sreekariyam Market is crucial for policymakers and stakeholders involved in the land acquisition and subsequent development processes. It emphasizes the need to consider the broader ecosystem of unorganized workers and their reliance on the market for their livelihoods.

Any changes or interventions should be mindful of the intricate relationships and economic dynamics within the market to minimize the adverse effects on the unorganized worker community.

The interconnectedness and interdependence of Sreekariyam Market play a vital role in supporting the livelihoods of unorganized workers. Understanding and preserving this interconnected ecosystem is essential for promoting economic stability, community cohesion, and the overall well-being of the unorganized worker community in Sreekariyam.

#### **6.8.9 IMPORTANCE OF CONSIDERING INTER-SECTIONAL VULNERABILITIES WHILE PLANNING REHABILITATION MEASURES**

The importance of considering intersectional vulnerabilities while planning rehabilitation measures for the unorganized workers affected by the land acquisition. This finding emphasizes the need to recognize and address the overlapping vulnerabilities that exist in Sreekariyam based on various social factors such as gender, age, religion, education, and economic status. By understanding and considering these intersectional vulnerabilities, policymakers and stakeholders can develop more inclusive and effective rehabilitation measures that cater to the diverse needs of the affected unorganized worker community.

The unorganized workers in Sreekariyam are not a homogeneous group, but rather individuals with intersecting identities and vulnerabilities. For example, within the group of unorganized workers, there are differences in gender, with both men and women facing distinct challenges and experiences. Women unorganized workers, such as Mrs. S and Mrs. M, face additional economic and social barriers due to existing gender inequalities. They often shoulder caregiving responsibilities, have limited access to resources, and encounter discrimination in the workplace. On the other hand, male unorganized workers, like Mr. F and Mr. U, struggle with different societal expectations and pressures.



In addition to gender, other intersecting factors such as age, religion, education, and economic status further contribute to the vulnerabilities experienced by unorganized workers. For instance, older unorganized workers, like Mr. F and Mrs. J, face limitations due to their age, impacting their ability to adapt to the changes brought about by land acquisition. Similarly, individuals with lower levels of education encounter challenges in finding alternative employment opportunities or navigating bureaucratic processes related to rehabilitation measures.

Economic status can heighten vulnerabilities, as individuals from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, such as Mrs. S, may have limited resources and options to cope with the disruptions caused by the land acquisition.

Considering these intersectional vulnerabilities is crucial for planning rehabilitation measures that are inclusive and responsive to the diverse needs of the affected unorganized workers. Rehabilitation measures should be designed to address the specific challenges faced by different subgroups within the community. This may involve targeted support for women, provisions for older workers, accessibility measures for individuals with lower levels of education, and culturally sensitive approaches for those belonging to different religious backgrounds.

The importance of considering intersectional vulnerabilities while planning rehabilitation measures for the unorganized workers affected by the land acquisition cannot be overstated. Recognizing the diverse identities and challenges within the community and tailoring interventions accordingly is essential for promoting inclusivity, equality, and the overall well-being of the affected individuals. By adopting an intersectional lens, policymakers and stakeholders can develop more effective and targeted measures that address the complex and intersecting vulnerabilities of the unorganized worker community in Sreekariyam

#### **6.8.10 CONSEQUENCES UNPLANNED, UNPREPARED AND PARTIAL DEMOLITION**

The consequences of unplanned, unprepared, and partial demolition in the context of land acquisition for flyover construction. This finding on the significant challenges and negative outcomes that arise when demolition processes are carried out without proper planning, preparation, and coordination with the affected unorganized workers in Sreekariyam.

This reveals several consequences of unplanned, unprepared, and partial demolition. The unplanned nature of the demolition process leads to uncertainty and anxiety among the unorganized workers. They are left in a difficult state, unsure about their future, livelihoods, and potential alternatives. This lack of clarity and preparation elevates the challenges faced by the workers and adds to their overall distress and insecurity.

The unplanned and unprepared demolition often results in unsafe conditions for the workers. The removal of the market's roof during the demolition process, as mentioned by Mrs. J and Mrs. N, creates hazardous situations. Workers may be exposed to excessive dust, and unsafe working environments, leading to health risks and potential injuries. The lack of proper safety measures and guidelines during the demolition process further compounds the negative consequences for the workers.

Another consequence of partial demolition is the disruption of established relationships and community cohesion. The scattering of people due to the partial demolition, as observed through the experiences of Mr. J and Mr. F, fractures the social fabric and connections within the community. The partial demolition without proper compensation or alternative arrangements intensifies the economic challenges faced by the unorganized workers. Mr. U's salon being demolished without adequate provisions for relocation exemplifies this consequence. Workers may lose their businesses, clientele, and sources of income without any feasible alternatives or support mechanisms in place.

The consequences of unplanned, unprepared, and partial demolition highlight the need for comprehensive and proactive approaches to land acquisition and redevelopment processes. Proper planning, coordination, and engagement with the affected unorganized workers are essential to minimize the negative consequences and ensure a more equitable and sustainable transition.

#### **6.8.11 INFORMAL SECTOR SOLIDARITY**

Informal sector solidarity is a significant finding about the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam. It highlights the sense of community, mutual support, and collective action among the workers. They collaborate, share knowledge, and advocate for their rights together. Informal sector solidarity provides emotional support, practical assistance, and a platform for collective bargaining. Recognizing and nurturing this solidarity can enhance the resilience and well-being of the unorganized worker community amidst the challenges of land acquisition and socio-economic changes.

#### **6.8.12 IMPORTANCE OF SHARED SPACE**

Importance of shared spaces, such as the Sreekariyam Market, for the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam. These spaces not only serve as economic hubs but also foster social connections, support networks, and knowledge exchange among the workers. Shared spaces contribute to community cohesion, vibrancy, and cultural diversity. Preserving and integrating these spaces into urban planning is crucial for promoting the well-being and resilience of the unorganized worker community and creating inclusive and sustainable urban environments.

#### **6.8.13 COLLECTIVENESS IN LIVELYHOOD SECURITY**

Collectiveness is a key factor in ensuring livelihood security for the unorganized workers in Sreekariyam. Through collective action, mutual support, and collaboration, workers are able to address common challenges, advocate for their rights, and enhance their resilience. Sharing resources, knowledge, and coping mechanisms strengthens their livelihoods and reduces vulnerabilities. Collectiveness among the fish vendors in Sreekariyam is an example. Collectiveness also fosters a sense of belonging and social

cohesion, empowering the workers and promoting their overall well-being. Recognizing and supporting collective efforts is crucial for sustaining the livelihood security of the unorganized worker community.

## **6.9 SUGGESTIONS**

### **6.9.1 SUGGESTIONS FOR GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES**

1. Consider the findings of the study in urban planning and development processes. Incorporate the research findings into the decision-making process for urban planning and development projects. Take into account the specific social, economic, and health impacts on unorganized workers that have been identified in the study.
2. Develop policies and programs to support the livelihoods of unorganized workers. Create policies and programs that specifically target the needs of unorganized workers. This can include financial assistance programs, training initiatives to enhance their skills and employability, and facilitating access to alternative employment opportunities.
3. Ensure transparency, fairness, and inclusivity in land acquisition and rehabilitation processes. Ensure that the land acquisition and rehabilitation processes are transparent and fair, taking into consideration the perspectives and needs of the affected unorganized workers. Involve them in the decision-making process and provide opportunities for their input and feedback.
4. Foster collaboration with local communities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders who are actively engaged in supporting unorganized workers. By working together, sustainable and comprehensive solutions can be designed and implemented to address the challenges faced by these workers.
5. Implement sustainable solutions, focusing on implementing long-term and sustainable solutions that go beyond short-term fixes. This may involve creating

supportive infrastructure, such as shared spaces or markets, that cater to the needs of unorganized workers, and consider initiatives that promote skill development, access to social protection, and capacity-building to enhance the resilience and well-being of unorganized workers

### **6.9.2 SUGGESTIONS FOR NON GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS (NGO'S)**

1. Advocate for the rights and well-being of unorganized workers. NGOs can utilize the research findings to raise awareness about the specific challenges and needs faced by unorganized workers in Sreekariyam. By advocating for their rights, NGOs can help bring attention to their issues and mobilize support for policy changes and interventions.
2. NGOs can directly support unorganized workers by offering a range of services. This can include skill development programs to enhance their employability, financial literacy training to improve their financial management skills, and access to healthcare facilities to address their health needs. By addressing these areas, NGOs can contribute to the overall well-being and livelihood security of unorganized workers.
3. Establish networks and collaborations with other NGOs, community-based organizations, and government agencies. Collaboration is key to creating comprehensive support systems for unorganized workers. NGOs should actively engage with other organizations and stakeholders working in the same field to share knowledge, resources, and best practices. By forming networks and collaborations, NGOs can create a unified front and amplify their collective efforts in supporting unorganized workers.
4. Continual research and data collection are important for understanding the experiences and needs of unorganized workers. NGOs can contribute to this process by conducting their own research, gathering data, and analyzing information related to the challenges faced by unorganized workers. By having solid evidence, NGOs

can advocate for evidence-based policy recommendations and interventions that effectively address the specific needs of unorganized workers.

### **6.9.3 SUGGESTIONS FOR SOCIAL WORK PRACTITIONERS**

1. Social workers should be knowledgeable about the challenges faced by unorganized workers and advocate for their rights and well-being. Social workers need to stay informed about the specific challenges faced by unorganized workers.
2. Incorporate a strengths-based and rights-based approach when working with unorganized workers. Social workers should adopt a strengths-based perspective, recognizing the resilience, skills, and capacities of unorganized workers. By focusing on their strengths and capabilities, Social Workers can empower workers to address the challenges they face and build on their existing resources.
3. Unorganized workers experience significant stress, anxiety, and emotional challenges due to the social, economic, and health issues they encounter based on the development-induced displacement. Social workers can provide individual and group counselling, psychosocial support, and mental health services to help workers cope with these challenges and improve their overall well-being.
4. Social workers should engage in collaborative efforts with professionals from diverse fields, including government agencies, NGOs, healthcare providers, and community organizations.
5. Empower unorganized workers and facilitate their participation. Social workers should actively empower unorganized workers by facilitating their participation in decision-making processes that affect their lives. This can include involving them in program planning, policy development, and community initiatives. Supporting their efforts to organize and advocate for their rights is also crucial in promoting their well-being and addressing systemic issues.

6. Engage in community organizing and capacity-building initiatives. Social workers can play a vital role in community organizing efforts, fostering social cohesion, and building the collective power of unorganized workers. This can involve facilitating support groups, organizing skill development workshops, and promoting social networks among workers to strengthen their resilience and promote solidarity.

## **6.10 CONCLUSION**

This research highlights the social, economic, and health challenges faced by unorganized workers in Sreekariyam due to the development-induced displacement. The study underscores the interconnectedness and interdependence of the Sreekariyam Market, emphasizing the significant impact of the demolition on the social fabric and livelihoods of the workers. The findings reveal the loss of established relationships, reduced community engagement, and political disillusionment experienced by the workers. The economic challenges, such as increased expenses, reduced customer base, and lack of alternative opportunities, further compound their difficulties. The study also identifies the health challenges arising from chronic health conditions, physical limitations, and unplanned demolition-induced risks.

The findings reveal that the displacement caused by the construction of transportation infrastructure, such as the proposed flyover in Sreekariyam, has significant consequences for the affected unorganized workers. They face the risk of losing their source of income, disruption of their social networks, and a breakdown of their established routines and livelihood systems. Moreover, the emotional attachment to their ancestral land and the lack of suitable alternative options further exacerbate their challenges.

It is evident that the current land acquisition and compensation policies do not adequately address the concerns of unorganized workers, as they primarily focus on the market value of the land and overlook the broader impact on livelihoods. This

highlights the need for policy interventions that prioritize the well-being and rights of unorganized workers, taking into account their specific needs and vulnerabilities.

Addressing the challenges faced by unorganized workers in the face of development-induced displacement requires a multi-faceted approach that considers their livelihoods, social networks, and cultural ties to the land. It is crucial to develop policies that prioritize the rights and well-being of these workers, ensuring their meaningful participation and fair compensation.



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## **APPENDIX**

## **TOOL FOR DATA COLLECTION**

### **Guided Interview Schedule**

#### **Current Situation**

- 1.Can you please share your experiences and feelings about your current work situation after the development-induced displacement in Sreekariyam?
- 2.How has the displacement affected your daily life and livelihood?
- 3.Can you describe any specific challenges or obstacles you have encountered in finding alternative employment or livelihood options?
- 4.What changes have you noticed in your work conditions or job security since the displacement?
- 5.How has the displacement impacted your income or earning potential?
- 6.Can you elaborate on any support or resources that have been made available to you in your current work situation?
- 7.In your opinion, what are the main strengths or limitations of the support or assistance provided to individuals like yourself who have been displaced?

#### **Social**

- 1.How has the loss of land and property due to the displacement affected your sense of stability and security?



2.Can you describe the impact of landlessness on your ability to generate income and sustain your livelihood?

3.Have you experienced joblessness or unemployment as a result of the displacement?

4.Have you faced challenges in finding suitable housing or experienced homelessness after the displacement?

5.In what ways has the displacement marginalized or socially excluded you from your previous community or society at large?

6.How has the displacement impacted your access to food, nutrition and access to market?

7.Have you lost access to common property resources or shared spaces that were important for your daily life or cultural practices or places for worship? Can you describe the effects of this loss?

8.In what ways has the displacement disrupted or disintegrated social relationships or social networks that were once important to you?

9.How have you coped with the social disarticulation caused by the displacement? Have you been able to form new social connections or support systems?

### **Economic factors**

1.How has the displacement affected your economic situation and livelihood? Can you describe any changes in your income, employment opportunities, or financial stability?

2. Have you faced challenges in finding alternative employment or income-generating activities after the displacement? How have these challenges impacted your overall well-being?

3. Have you experienced any loss of assets, capital, or resources as a result of the displacement?

4. Can you describe any changes in the cost of living or affordability of essential goods and services since the displacement? How has this affected your ability to meet your basic needs?

5. Have you faced any barriers or difficulties in accessing social protection programs, government assistance, or other forms of support for those affected by the displacement?

### **Health**

1. Have you faced challenges in accessing healthcare services or medical treatment after the displacement?

2. How has the displacement influenced your access to clean water, sanitation facilities, and other environmental factors that can impact your health?

### **Rehabilitation and Mitigation**

1. How would you describe the rehabilitation and mitigation measures that were implemented after the displacement?

2. Have you received any compensation or support from the government or other organizations to aid in your rehabilitation and recovery?

3.How satisfied are you with the quality and effectiveness of the rehabilitation and mitigation measures provided?

4.Can you describe any initiatives or programs that have been implemented to promote the socio-economic development and empowerment of those affected by the displacement? How have these initiatives impacted your life and livelihood?

5.Have you been involved in any decision-making processes regarding the rehabilitation and mitigation measures?

6.What are your hopes and concerns for the future regarding your work and livelihood, considering the current situation?

7.How have you been adapting to the new circumstances and what strategies have you employed to navigate the challenges